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NETHERLANDS REPORTS USSR UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TEST

PA091220 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1107 GMT 9 Sep 84

[Text] The Hague, 9 Sep (EFE) -- The Soviet Union conducted an underground nuclear test this morning, the Netherlands Meteorology Institute has reported. The explosion occured at 0300 GMT today in the region of Kazakistan, in the southwestern part of the USSR, and reached an intensity of 5 on the Richter Scale, an institute spokesman announced. Nuclear arms experts estimate that the power of the bomb used in the test was 10 kilotons.

In 1974, the United States and the Soviet Union pledged not to use bombs over 150 kilotons in underground nuclear tests.

FALIN CITED ON U.S. SPACE TALKS CONTRADICTIONS

LD081529 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1423 GMT 8 Sep 84

["Space Adventurism and Reality" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 8 Sep (TASS) -- The specific character of the space problem lies in the fact that it can only be solved in a comprehensive way, as a whole. It cannot be solved by half or by a quarter, IZVESTIYA political observer Valentin Falin writes. At the same time, the task is being made easier in principle by the circumstance of maintaining the existing situation today and of everyone abstaining from certain steps in the common interest. So far no one has military superiority in space, and by means of abstention, it will be guaranteed that no one will acquire such advantages in the future. Experience shows that it is simpler not to start something than to move backwards, abandoning what has been achieved.

What are the American champions of space wars banking on? On the fact that the United States will prevail in the space race even if it has to spend 500 billion, 1 trillion or more dollars. They see the way toward acquiring qualitative superiority of earth in the main anti-satellite, anti-missile, and later, in space, a first-strike missile system against ground and sea targets, for the sake of which the Reagan Administration has, strictly speaking, undertaken "nuclear and moral rearmament."

With regard to the U.S. Administration's maneuvers in connection with the Soviet proposal on beginning space talks, the observer stresses: The Soviet Union proposed talks with the aim of preventing the militarization of space, while the United States is talking about talks to "conclude an agreement on the militarization of space." The USSR is for businesslike and specific talks accompanied by a suspension of work in the sphere of space weapons. The United States is for a "meeting to discuss and determine the approach to talks" about who knows what and, it goes without saying -- without any restrictions on American military programs.

The reluctance to talk business is so great, V. Falin observes, that the U.S. Government quite often contradicts itself. The President affirms that it was above all the "insufficient" reduction in military potential that was virtually the chief reason for the non-adoption of SALT II and other agreements of the seventies. R. Reagan insisted that what is needed is not restriction, but a radical reduction and, even better, reduction to zero of the most dangerous types of weapons. Well, in space, no theoretical, but a practical possibility is being offered to agree on a zero figure, and at the first contact with reality, the "good will" of the head of the American state has evaporated without a trace.

Further Kornilov Comments on Talks

LD071723 Moscow TASS in English 1527 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] Moscow September 7 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

As presidential elections are drawing nearer in the United States, the more actively the Washington administration tries to pose as the champion of limitation of the arms race, to create the impression that it allegedly displays "flexibility" on the question of prevention of militarization of outer space. Speaking at a press conference in Washington, White House representative Speakes declared in that connection that the United States is allegedly ready and can go to Vienna...

Certainly, Washington representatives can go to Vienna. But the natural question is: Why, for that aim? The USSR which actively and consistently advocates that outer space should become peaceful and only peaceful, proposed, as is known, that Soviet-American negotiations be opened in Vienna on excluding a possibility of spreading the arms race to outer space, to fully renounce assault space facilities, including anti-sputnik weapons. In other words -- to hold negotiations so that there should be no war threat to earth from outer space and to outer space -- from earth and from outer space itself.

As the priority step, the Soviet Union proposes that simultaneously with the beginning of negotiations mutual moratorium be introduced on tests and deployment of assault space systems.

Such are the proposals of the Soviet side -- clear and straightforward.

And what is the stand of the United States? In word, they in Washington make abundant assurances on the readiness to conduct negotiations and in reality they are occupied with something different: They pretend that they allegedly do not understand what is the essence, the meaning of Soviet proposals, they are trying in every way to supersede the subject of negotiations, they insist that questions pertaining to nuclear armaments in general be considered in Vienna, that is questions on which the dialogue was conducted in Geneva and which was thwarted by the United States itself. In other words, they conduct an unseemly propaganda game around the question of outer space and simultaneously they continue the development at a speedy rate and realisation of plans of space armaments.

Facts show that the approach of the U.S. Administration to the problem of militarization of outer space, and, respectively, the aims of the negotiations is directly opposite to the Soviet approach. Then, with what aim, we reiterate, does Mr. Speakes declare about "readiness" of American representatives to go to Vienna? Negotiations are needed not for the sake of negotiations but for attaining accords that would prevent the space arms race. Washington obviously does not strive for attaining such accords and -- moreover -- it opposes such a possibility in every way, though it is more than obvious that an accord on the given problem would be of vital significance to mankind and could to some extent introduce to Soviet-American relations elements of mutual confidence that they lack so much.

REAGAN ADVISER'S VIEWS ON ARMS TALKS DECRIED

LD080247 Moscow World Service in English 1710 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] The presidential adviser on arms control this week expressed his views on U.S. approach to arms negotiations with the Soviet Union. In an article for the forthcoming issue of FOREIGN POLICY magazine (Colin Gray), a member of the Reagan administration's Advisory Committee on Arms Control and Disarmament, cast doubt on the wisdom of persisting in arms control efforts with the Soviet Union.

Our observer Yuriy Reshetnikov has prepared this commentary on the subject.

As could be expected, the Washington official blamed the Soviet Union for the lack of progress in arms control and tried to justify his doubt on the wisdom of arms control efforts by alleged Soviet violations of such agreements with the United States. According to Mr. (?Gray), the technical evidence amassed so far with regard to arms control efforts leads him to the conclusion that the two countries do not retain enough common interest in arms control to warrant continuing in negotiations. He goes on to suggest that, for starters, the administration should announce that it will no longer abide by the informal provisions of the Salt II agreement and the 1972 treaty limiting the construction of anti-ballistic missile systems. In his suggestions, however, Mr. (?Gray) appears to be somewhat overdue. While none of the top-ranking members of the Reagan administration has ever openly charged the Soviet Union with violations of U.S.-Soviet accords, for a lack of such violations the present administration has been quietly sidestepping many provisions of the arms agreements reached between the two countries.

The case in point is the above-mentioned SALT II agreement, signed by the United States in 1979 but never ratified by the Senate. Despite assurances that the United States would abide by its provisions, Washington nevertheless chose to ignore those provisions, specifically by introducting long-range cruise missiles and by deploying an (?array) of nuclear weapons in Western Europe. Equally dubious is the U.S. attitude to the 1972 treaty on anti-ballistic missile systems which, according to (?Colin Gray), should be renounced by the United States. Not only has Washington tried to by-pass this treaty, adopting an intricate network of anti-ballistic radar systems. Last year President Reagan formally launched his star wars programme which directly contradicts the provisions of the existing treaty.

So, in a way, the horse is already out of the barn, whatever appearances the United States is trying to make to the contrary. If by initiating the new arms race the Washington administration is hoping to frighten this country into submissiveness, then such hopes are totally unfounded. In its nearly 67 years of existence the Soviet Union has had to cope with many trials and tribulations, many of them quite serious. Regarding the present American military challenge, it should be noted that the Soviet Union has been able to match every previous U.S. weapons build-up and there is no reason to think that this arms race will end differently. On its part this country remains to be strongly committed to the process of arms control and constructive dialogue with the United States. With the new weapons coming on line, likely to put both countries on a hair trigger footing, it's all the more important that we keep our lines of communication open.

Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko recently restated our readiness for a dialogue, for honest and serious negotiations aimed at reaching agreements which would be based on the interests of security of all states and nations. We have yet to hear something from Washington that would demonstrate American interest to do the same.

Zamyatin Criticizes U.S. Stance

LD071325 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1221 GMT 7 Sep 84

["The "Crusade" Continues (on Washington's So-Called 'New' Line)" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 7 Sep (TASS) -- Washington leaders are stating that they are for dialogue, but in fact they do not want dialogue, but talk about dialogue, Leonid Zamyatin writes in the pamphlet "The Ideological Struggle and Issues of Peace".

In practice, they proceed from the idea of force and nuclear superiority. The U.S. Administration categorically rejects the non-first use of nuclear weapons and is against discussion of the Soviet proposal on norms for the conduct of states possessing nuclear weapons.

Talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe were broken off through the fault of the United States. It is claimed in Washington that as a result of the siting of U.S. Pershing's and cruise missiles, security in Europe and the world has allegedly not suffered, and if anything, has become stronger. In reality, the situation has sharply deteriorated. The threat to the peoples of Western Europe, whom the "American big brother" holds in the role of hostages of its policy, has increased.

The U.S. Administration is against consideration of the proposal of the Warsaw Pact member states -- once again proposed in June 1984 in the declaration of the CEMA member countries -- on concluding a treaty on mutual non-use of military force and the maintenance of peaceful relations between the two military-political alliances.

Judging by actions and not by propaganda rhetroic, Leonid Zamyatin draws the conclusion that Washington does not want a halt to the arms race and restrictions on it, nor a shift toward reaching a military-strategic balance. Continuing the campaign of intimidation using the "Soviet military threat," the United States is foisting a large-scale arms race on its NATO partners, urging them to increase chemical weapons and preparing to deploy neutron warheads in Western Europe.

The two varying approaches to the issue of the militarization of space are particularly important. The USSR is proposing reaching a reliable block on all channels for the spread of the arms race into space. However, Washington is for talks without a clear agenda, since it is thinking in the direction of deploying strike weapons in space. Steps have already been taken to this end across the ocean.

The combination of the openly militaristic direction of the Pentagon's innumerable programs, Leonid Zamyatin writes, with statements about readiness to "improve relations" with the USSR, cannot but put us on our guard. He who is able to judge what is happening in the world on the basis of the facts, and not false propaganda stereotypes, sees the U.S. Administration is not showing a desire for genuine dialogue.

SEMEYKO ON U.S. BLOCKING OF DISARMANENT MOVES

PM070850 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 35, Aug 84 pp 5-7

[Lev Semeyko article: "We Will Not Be Found Wanting"]

[Text] The eighties have so far been a period of sharp growth in the war danger. And not only because the arms race is spiralling as never before. To all practical purposes consistent and meaningful disarmament has come to a standstill. Since the Reagan administration entered office, not a single nuclear arms limitation agreement has been signed between the United States and the Soviet Union. No talks on checking the arms race are going on between the two countries. And as regards multilateral talks, no prospect of progress is in evidence, even though it would seem that there are more than enough potential openings for headway.

As is rightly noted in the book "Whence the Threat to Peace," the third edition of which was put out recently in Moscow, this state of affairs is a direct result of the Washington policy of cancelling out everything positive that was achieved in the years of detente. The U.S. has laid the emphasis not on further stabilization of the strategic balance and the consistent lowering of its level, but on undermining agreements reached earlier and the achievement of military superiority through priority development of all manner of innovations in military technology.

Two years ago the White House publicly proclaimed a crusade against the Soviet Union. Although since then there has been no dearth of outwardly peaceable pronouncements on its part. Reagan's recent "wisecrack" about the beginning of the nuclear bombing of the USSR is additional testimony to the true character of Washington's foreign policy.

The obstructionist actions of the U.S. leaders, who have brought the world to the brink of a nuclear catastrophe, cannot be covered up by peace rhetoric. Nor can lip service to peace obscure the significance of the constructive proposals in the sphere of disarmament which the Soviet Union advanced at the beginning of the present decade. And we not only advanced these proposals, but unilaterally embarked on practical actions aimed at reducing military tension. Recall the withdrawal in 1980 of a large contingent of Soviet troops from the German Democratic Republic, the reduction in 1982-83 of the number of our medium-range missiles and the moratorium on the deployment of medium-range nuclear weapons in the European part of the USSR, and the commitment undertaken in 1983 not to be the first to station anti-satellite weapons of any kind in outer space.

Besides these moves relating to the material basis of military strength, the Soviet Union took an epochal step forward in respect of the use of that strength. In 1982 our country undertook the commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. The significance of this commitment can hardly be overestimated. But did the U.S. and its nuclear allies reciprocate this Soviet move? No, they did not.

Washington and its partners have raised obstacles to practically every proposal made by the USSR and other socialist countries with a view to reducing and eventually completely removing the threat of military confrontation. Let us take a closer look at the most important of these proposals.

Limitation and reduction of strategic armaments. To lower the level of nuclear confrontation in the strategic sphere is to reduce the danger of a global nuclear conflict. This is something that not only has to be done but can be done. The groundwork for this already exists. Military-strategic parity between the Soviet Union and the United States became a reality on the quantitative plans some 15 years ago, and in the qualitative respect, in the mid-1970's. This was recorded in a number of bilateral agreements and confirmed by the world community in a resolution of the 37th U.N. General Assembly. That parity exists has had to be admitted also by the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, a February 1984 report of which refers to the current period as the "period of rough nuclear parity between the United States and the Soviet Union."

Parity creates favourable conditions for scaling down the strength level without damage to the security of either side. The USSR proposed to begin with the reduction of strategic nuclear armaments to 1,800 carriers (a 25 per cent reduction as compared with the level stipulated in the SALT-II Treaty), and setting an equal number of nuclear warheads for both sides at a level considerably below that existing in the U.S. Needless to say, realization of these proposals would be meaningful if the U.S. did not engage in a build-up of its forward-based nuclear weapons capable of reaching targets on the territory of the USSR and its allies. Washington, however, advanced a proposal aimed at stepping up the qualitative arms race and securing for itself a more twofold advantage in number of nuclear warheads (the U.S. would have some 13,000 warheads on strategic carriers and the USSR only 6,000).

The U.S. opposed the Soviet proposal for either the prohibition of the development of new types of strategic weapons or their maximum limitation within agreed limits.

The White House is also against the Soviet proposals to refrain from the deployment of long-range sea- and land-based cruise missiles and to freeze strategic armaments quantitatively and restrict their modernization for the duration of the talks.

All these Soviet proposals remain in force. They fully accord with the principle of equality and equal security. The U.S., however, far from changing its one-sided approach to strategic arms limitation has made further talks in this respect impossible by beginning the deployment of its Euromissiles.

Limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe. Here too the approaches of the sides are diametrically opposed to each other. Seeking to meet the wishes of the other side halfway, the USSR has done its utmost not only to avert a new round in the arms race on the European Continent, but also radically to lower -- by roughly two thirds -- the level of nuclear confrontation. If the Soviet proposals were accepted, for missiles the level would be below that of 1976. However at not a single stage of the Geneva talks did the U.S. agree to reduce its forward based nuclear weaponry by a single unit. It also categorically refused to take into account the fact that on the side of NATO are the British and French nuclear forces.

Realizing that the Soviet Union cannot be forced to disarm unilaterally, Washington from the very start of the talks was bent on torpedoing them. At the same time preparations went on for the deployment of new first-strike weapons at the doorstep of the socialist community. What it all led to is common knowledge: The U.S. wrecked the Geneva talks by beginning the deployment of the Euromissiles. Its efforts to lay the blame on Moscow were as groundless as Washington's exhortations to the Soviet Union to return to Geneva were hypocritical. The USSR has always advocated talks, but talks that are honest, equal, and aimed at mutual reduction of nuclear arsenals, not sanctioning the expansion of the U.S.-NATO arsenal. We will not go to talks with Pershing and cruise missiles pointed at us. Continuation of talks by the Soviet Union in the present circumstances would only mislead world public opinion.

Prevention of the militarization of outer space. The USSR stands for the conclusion of a treaty prohibiting the use of force in outer space and from outer space with regard to the earth; for a total ban on the testing and deployment in outer space of any type of space-based weapons; for the radical solution of the problem of anti-satellite weapons, that is, renunciation of tests of systems being developed, prohibition of the creation of new ones, and abolition of existing systems. This approach to the prevention of the militarization of outer space not only accords with the logic of checking the arms race, but is fully consonant with the letter and the spirit of the Soviet-American Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems, which, incidentally, is of unlimited duration.

The U.S., however, is now reneging on its earlier commitments. "If we find at the conclusion of the study," U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger has said, "that there is a far more effective system that would require revisions in the treaty, I think it's fair to say we wouldn't hesitate to seek those revisions." Meanwhile, Washington has gone so far as to foil the talks on preventing the militarization of outer space, which the USSR suggested be opened in September in Vienna. The fact that the U.S. formally agreed to talks with a non-specified agenda does not alter the substance of the matter.

The draft of a joint statement on the Vienna talks submitted by our country defines the subject of the talks as prevention of the militarization of outer space. The U.S. project refers only to militarization of outer space, which is an altogether different subject. It is not simply a matter of semantic nuances. The U.S. takes a negative attitude to the problem as such. It does not want it solved. This is evident from the American striving to lay prime emphasis on the talks on nuclear armaments which the U.S. itself scuttled.

It is also evident from the U.S. thesis of the impossibility of preventing the militarization of outer space on the plea that observance of agreements cannot be verified. This is a trick designed to capitalize on the fact that the general public is ill-informed on questions of military technology. It is perfectly obvious that those who speak in advance of the supposed impossibility of verifying the observance of arms limitation agreements relating to outer space are bent on ruling out any fruitful talks in this sphere and on ensuring themselves a free hand in the militarization of outer space with a view to gaining military superiority.

Verification and trust. This question is less technical than political, and the Soviet Union is no less, if not more, interested in it than the United States. For Washington has already repeatedly violated agreements it has concluded with the USSR.

The main purpose of verification is to help give effect to measures checking the arms race and to strengthen mutual trust, not to serve intelligence-gathering purposes. It should not be divorced from arms limitation. The extent of verification should correspond to the extent of the latter. Figuratively speaking, to insist on $1,000 worth of supervision for 10 cents' worth of arms limitation is not only meaningless, but harmful.

Thus, important though it is, verification plays a secondary role, inasmuch as the crucial thing are the agreements themselves, the political readiness of the sides to carry them out. The U.S. is lacking what is most important -- the desire to come to agreement. Precisely because of this, Washington is seizing on verification as a pretext for not signing or ratifying agreements aimed at checking the arms race.

The opposite approaches of the USSR and the U.S. to verification reflect the fundamental differences between their positions on confidence-building and security. At the Stockholm Conference the Soviet Union's position was set forth with utmost clarity: What is needed is a combination of political, legal and technical measures to broaden the groundwork for confidence laid in the Helsinki Final Act. Of paramount important is it for all the nuclear powers represented at the conference to undertake the commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, to conclude a treaty on the reununciation of the use of armed force and on the maintenance of relations of peace, central to which could be the commitment not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional arms against one another and, hence, not to use armed force in general. Agreement could first be reached on the freezing and then on the reduction of military spending, and proposals for ridding Europe of chemical weapons and the creation of nuclear-free zones on the continent could be considered.

Technical measures too are of course important. For instance, the USSR urges limitation of the scale of military exercises and prior notification not only of major land forces manoeuvres, but also of air and naval exercises and large-scale troop movements. Our country also advocates extension of the existing practice of inviting observers to military exercises.

However, the U.S. and its allies impede the creation of a political and legal groundwork for confidence and security and seek to gain onesided advantages from the technical measures as well. Their proposals (which, incidentally, are extremely limited in nature and scope) boil down mainly to ensuring the "transparency" of the military activity of the other side. This can hardly be qualified as anything but a striving to gain access to intelligence information. Yet the main task of the Stockholm Conference is to work out confidence-building measures and not give more cause for suspicion.

Mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe. The question of the numerical strength of the armed forces of the sides and the problem of control (verification of the observance of agreements) are holding up the Vienna talks, which have been dragged out through the fault of the West.

The socialist countries call for a halt to the endless discussion of the extent of the reductions and for laying the main emphasis on the final figures.

This envisages both sides reducing their forces to 900,000 men, including 700,000 in the land forces.

The overall pattern of the reductions could be made simple enough. To begin with, mutual example is essential: In addition to the 20,000 troops it has already unilaterally withdrawn from the territory of the German Democratic Republic the Soviet Union is ready to pull out an equal number from central Europe in the course of a year. On its part, the U.S. would in the same period reduce its own land forces by 13,000 men. The next step would be a freeze on the levels of the armed forces and armaments of all direct participants in the talks. This freeze would remain in force until agreement is reached on the reduction of the numerical strength of the armed forces and armaments of all direct participants in the talks. This freeze would remain in force until agreement is reached on the reduction of the numerical strength of the armed forces of the sides to agreed equal collective levels. Armaments too would be reduced and military activity limited. Effective methods of verification corresponding to the scope of the agreements would be provided for.

Regrettably it must be noted again and again that the NATO powers, far from suggesting a way out of the present impasse, are making it more and more of a dead end. Their "updated" but by no means new position is based on the same old juggling with figures, but this time not with the numbers of troops but of units and formations. As compensation for this "concession," the West insists on totally unjustified control measures. As hitherto, the Western negotiators refuse to reduce armaments and to limit air force personnel and the scale of military exercises. The West's two-stage reduction pattern envisages the possibility of the Soviet Union and the United States being required to cut back on their troop strength even if no agreement is reached on troop reductions by other direct participants in the talks. The individual limitations would apply roughly to half of the forces of the Warsaw Treaty countries in central Europe but only to one quarter of the NATO forces (the Soviet Union has 445,000 men and the U.S. 247,000 in the area of the reduction).

Prohibition of chemical weapons. The Soviet Union is a consistent advocate of the complete and general prohibition of chemical weapons and the abolition of all stockpiles of these weapons. We submitted a draft of the basic provisions of a relevant convention as far back as 1982. We also propose rational and feasible measures of control over the destruction of the accumulated stocks, either through the permament presence on the spot of international controllers, or by combining systematic international checkups with the use of registration instruments installed on the spot.

But in this respect too the U.S. takes a negative stand, making verification the stumbling bloc. The "new" U.S. proposals contain demands which cannot be called anything but absurd. According to these proposals, controllers should have access to installations irrespective of whether they have any bearing on the production or storage of chemical weapons. Moreover, control would extend only to government-owned enterprises and not to private. The object here is not only snooping, but to leave a hoophole for the production of toxic agents at plants belonging to private firms, which, as is known, are to be found only in the West. It is important to note that the U.S. draft convention glossses over the question of banning binary chemical weapons. This approach in no way makes for effective prohibition of chemical weapons, but is aimed at complicating and perhaps even torpedoing the talks on this problem.

The approaches of the Soviet Union and the United States, of the Warsaw Treaty countries and NATO, differ not only as regards the above-mentioned problems, but also on other issues relating to checking the arms race and strengthening international security. These issues are subjected to a detailed political analysis in the book "Whence the Threat to Peace," some of the propositions of which are summed up in this article.

The state of affairs as regards the cardinal problems of peace and security leaves open the basic question: What course will the development of international relations, and primarily of Soviet-American relations, take -- the road of reducing the threat of war or the road of the arms race and escalation of the danger? This is not an easy question to answer. Far too much depends on the long-term objectives of U.S. policy, as well as on changes in the alignment of forces in the United States and in the West as a whole. As regards our country, it holds that East-West relations can and must be returned to the lines of detente. However, for this it is necessary that the U.S. and NATO policy-makers take a realistic view of the problems of international security and adopt a constructive stand.

Military contest is not our choice. We are ready to put an end to that contest once and for all, to embark on effective large-scale and mutual disarmament without delay. "In politics," Konstantin Chernenko has pointed out, "we trust deeds, and not words. Arms reduction means truly mutual reduction. Destruction of nuclear weapons means their true destruction by both sides. If the U.S.A. and NATO see their way clear to this, we will not be found wanting."

U.S. TO BLAME FOR 'FRUITLESS' GENEVA CONFERENCE

PM082017 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Sep 84 First Edition p 5

[Vitaliy Menshikov's "Commentator's Column": "Why the Conference Is Stalling"]

[Text] The 1984 session of the Disarmament Conference has ended fruitlessly in Geneva's Palais des Nations. Why did it "stall?" Who bears responsibility for the fact that this important channel for talks on arms limitation and reduction has been blocked, while the participants in the East-West dialogue have even found that the solution of a whole range of current vitally important problems was further away than previously?

If we look at the stance of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries' delegations, at this session they applied, just as before, maximum efforts to achieve positive results The documents submitted by them again demonstrated their readiness for dialogue, for honest and serious talks aimed at reaching agreement and taking the security interests of all countries and peoples into account.

The disappointing results of the latest session are the direct outcome of the obstructionist stance of the United States and its allies and their lack of political will to conduct talks on the key issues of eliminating the threat of nuclear war, of disarmament.

At first glance, we perceive a paradoxical situation: On the eve of the U.S. presidential election, Washington (and its military-political alliance partners in its wake) are pouring forth into the airwaves, on the television screens, and in the press a flood of verbose assurances and vows about "peacableness" and "readiness" to talk. However, the greater the pressure of these streams of words, the faster the millstones of the insane arms race are turning, grinding away hundreds of billions of dollars, pounds sterling, and marks. There is no paradox in Washington's obstructionist stance at the conference. There is only a striking divergence between words and deeds.

The years of experience in the work of the Geneva disarmament forum have shown on many occasions that, given good will and willingness, it is really possible to reach mutually acceptable accords and open the way to achieving important agreements that help reduce the danger of war and strengthen universal peace. Just think of the agreements on the prohibition of nuclear weapons tests in the three environments and the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons.

No matter how much the United States may flex its military muscles, it will not succeed in changing the world, nor will the world start living according to American standards. Today, more than ever before, we need a transition to the policy of realism, common sense, and businesslike cooperation so as to solve the tasks facing humanity.

U.S. MAKING MOCKERY OF ARMS CONTROL PROPOSALS

LD071415 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 6 Sep 84

[Text] Space should be an arena of peaceful cooperation between nations irrespective of their social systems, not a field of military competition. This was stressed on Wednesday by Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko at the Kremlin ceremony to honor three Soviet cosmonauts. The Soviet leader expressed the hope that the United States would eventually display political farsightedness and due appreciation of the Soviet Union's constructive approach to prevent the militarization of outer space.

The defense system in space proposed by the Reagan administration was named after the movie "Star Wars." It will open a new chapter in the arms race by drawing immense resources into both building and beating it. At the current stage, technical experts agree that only some elements of such a defense can be built and deployed; they won't be good enough to prevent destruction. Political implications are far more serious. On Wednesday two noted American scientists called Reagan's plan the spark that could ignite a new arms race. Among other things the program runs the risk of violating the 1972 Antiballistic Missile Treaty, signed by the United States and the USSR. (Sydney Crell), of Stanford University said that the treaty may be itself the first casualty of a star wars program. Now, what about arms control when the Pentagon plans to spend almost $30 billion on the antimissile defense of space in the next 5 years alone? How can arms control progress if the overall cost of the program is said to be around $500 billion? Imagine an American delegation discussing how to ban space weapons while at the same time the Pentagon is spending billions of perfecting and testing them. That would be a mockery of arms control, and this is exactly what's been happening in other fields -- medium-range and strategic weapons.

They have roled out a prototype of the B-1 bomber to be armed with long-range cruise missiles and say they want to rid the earth of them, like they have brought cruise and Pershing II missiles to Europe while pledging to destroy the whole class of such weapons. Angered by the criticism of the administration's dismal record in arms control, Edward Rowny, who had led one American delegation in Geneva, exclaimed -- what the hell have I been doing for the last 4 years? Well, this question is in many people's minds.

AKHROMEYEV, OTHERS SEE USTINOV OFF TO WAR GAMES

LD100919 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 10 Sep 84

[Text] Today Marshal of the Soviet Union Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, left Moscow for the CSSR for maneuvers by troops of the Joint Armed Forces of Warsaw Pact Nations named Shield-84. Marshall of the Soviet Union Ustinov was seen off at the airport by Chief Marshal for Aviation Bugayev, USSR minister of civil aviation; Marshal of the Soviet Union Akhromeyev, Chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces, first deputy minister of defense of the USSR; Marshal of the Soviet Union Sokolov, first deputy minister of defense of the USSR; deputy defense ministers of the USSR, and other officials.

Among those who saw him off was (Cherny), charge d'affaires ad interim of the CSSR in the USSR.

Ustinov Arrives in CSSR

LD101230 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 10 Sep 84

[Text] The Soviet defense minister, Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov, has arrived in Czechoslovakia for the joint military exercises of the Warsaw Treaty countries, "Shield 84."

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD091703 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 9 Sep 84

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Aleksandr Yevgenyevich Bovin, political observer; Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin, political observer; and Viktor Nikolayevich Levin, All-Union Radio commentator]

Space Arms Limitation

[Text] [Levin] Hello, dear comrades. This week the Soviet Union once again drew the attention of the international public and of political and state circles the world over to the problem of averting the militarization of space. Twice within a short space of time, first in his replies to questions from the newspaper PRAVDA and then is a speech while presenting awards to Soviet cosmonauts, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, confirming our principled position on preventing the militarization of space, said once again that our party and state have set themselves the goal that space should be peaceful and only peaceful, and appealed to the United States to approach our proposals constructively and listen to the voice of reason.

[Shishlin] Both Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's replies and his speech on that solemn occasion, the decoration of the heroes of space, they really have two meanings. The first is that concrete and truly burning problem of the prevention of the militarization of space; and the second is broader: the problem of mankind's future in general. It is a question of whether there are to be talks or not, of whether there are to be good relations between the Soviet Union and the United States or not. And what I think is this: A fundamental assessment of the American Administration's present course -- a rigid, imperial, course -- and at the same time, the Soviet Union's perfectly practical and concrete actions regarding our dialogue with the United States, or the possibility of dialogue with the United States convinces one that the Soviet leadership proceeds from the fact that the present state of affairs is reversible. But this does indeed require political farsightedness, goodwill, and a readiness to discuss and seek solutions to pressing international problems, guided by the principle of equality and equal security of both sides, and of course guided by the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of other states.

[Bovin] And Nikolay Vladimirovich the whole time they explain this by saying, "Just wait." You see, Reagan's already begun to learn something. He's even started giving different speeches. If he is elected for another term, in view of the fact that he will not be running for a third term, then he will feel less constrained, and so then at last he will be willing to, improve relations.

[Shishlin] But it is certainly true that a new policy is required. With the current policy of the present American Administration, with the current line of exacerbating the confrontation, it is of course impossible to count on achieving any kind of sensible compromises.

[Levin] Well, in the replies of Comrade Chernenko to PRAVDA's questions, it is stated that one would like to hope that in U.S. leading circles, understanding of the need to take joint measures to prevent the militarization of space will nonetheless prevail. What, concretely, is the Soviet Union proposing? To exclude the possibility of spreading the arms race to outer space. To entirely renounce all strike-weapons in space, including anti-satellite weapons. In other words, it is a question of there never being a threat of war to the earth from outer space, or to space, either from the earth or from space itself. And as a first step we propose placing a mutual moratorium on testing and deploying space strike systems, simultaneously with the start of negotiations. Of course, this is not the only problem now on the agenda.

There are also other questions, including the questions of nuclear arms, but the space problem has taken on special importance today because of the fact that, indeed, the American Administration is intending to open yet another aruna in the arms race. If this happens, then it will become more complicated to speak about everything, and the situation will in many respects deteriorate. The extension of the arms race to outer space would sharply increase the risk of a military catastrophe and would undermine the prospect of limiting and reducing arms in general. This problem is assuming particular importance today.

U.S. Elections

[Shishlin] By the way, Reagan is making a series of speeches right now. As a matter of fact, he has actively entered the election campaign. They're now on the final lap...

[Levin interrupting] Yes, the final lap started on Monday.

[Shishlin] Yes, and, generally, it has to be said that he is choosing his audiences and statements accordingly. As a rule, Reagan tries to appear before audiences considered untra-conservative, ultra-right. And Reagan needs no one to teach him how to please the tastes of ultra-right, ultra-conservative circles.

[Bovin] After all, Reagan's premise is that if America is strong, then the result of this strength and of strong-arm pressure on the Soviet Union, must be the Soviet Union's agreement with the American platform. And yet this strong-arm pressure, which is at the basis of his policy, not only does not improve the situation, as Reagan imagines, and as he wants to convince the Americans that it does, but on the contrary, it erodes the preconditions for any negotiations about disarmament.

[Levin] I would like to illustrate Nikolay Vladimirovich's thoughts on the fact that Reagan appears before ultra-conservative audiences and finds complete mutual understanding there. One of these audiences this week was the members of the American Legion. Speaking there about the issue we began our talk with space weapons, Reagan said, literally: We should actively continue research in the field of defensive technology that can give us the opportunity to intercept strategic ballistic missiles before they reach our territory or the territory of our allies. Some, Reagan continues, call this star wars; I call it prudent politics and common sense. In the 1985 fiscal year, more than a billion dollars is being assigned to this so-called common sense. In light of this concrete fact, the declarations being heard in Washington about their supposed readiness to send a delegation to Vienna for negotiations with the Soviet Union on avoiding the militarization of space do not look convincing and do not look honest. This is probably also a noteworthy fact.

[Shishlin] The main point is what it is that comes by way of U.S. action, the very line, the direction they have. And in this of course, they are quite simply irrepressible. No doubt our listeners know that a super-modern B-1B bomber crashed quite recently in the United States during tests. But nonetheless this incident has been quickly forgotten.

[Bovin] But the fact of the matter is that the accident happened while the aircraft was being tested for flying at minimal speed and at minimal height. What was this needed for? In principle, the aircraft was adapted for launching cruise missiles, but it is also capable of carrying nuclear bombs, and these bombs have to be dropped in that way. And flying in that way the aircraft crashed.

[Shishlin] Yes, the fact is that the first B-1B bomber is in effect entering service with the American military machine in September, and altogether they are counting on spending not a billion dollars on this project, but a much more significant sum.

[Bovin] Twenty eight billion dollars.

[Shishlin] Twenty eight billion dollars.

[Bovin] For a hundred machines.

[Levin] What's more, serial production of these bombers began 6 days after that crash, that is to say they are quite possessed by the idea here, and the billion dollars for space armaments is the first billion, it is the beginning. But the very fact that under conditions in which we are actively calling upon the American side to listen to the voice of reason and start talks, they, while avoiding talks, are allocating resources for the development of these armaments. This very clearly shows both the way of thinking and the way of action of the United States; although all this is indeed shielded by different pompous-sounding statements.

Reagan is currently talking a great deal about his love of peace. Speaking in Chicago recently he said America has always been a peace-loving country. We have never loved waging war, our country is the most nonmilitant of all powerful countries in history. On the contrary, it is known that during the period following the Second World War alone, the United States has made use of its Armed Forces on more than 200 occasions, and it has examined quite seriously, in earnest, as they say, the question of using nuclear weapons on 19 occasions. This peace-loving demagogy of Reagan is capable of deceiving few people and his notorious nuclear joke -- you remember when he said that the bombing of the Soviet Union was going to begin in 5 minutes' time -- this reflects a way of thinking. This is not a slip of tongue, it is not simply a voice-test, as he tried to present it.

[Bovin] It is indeed as a result of this policy of Reagan's that the current elections are somewhat unusual as far as Americans are concerned because issues of domestic policy in America are usually to the fore during elections. It has always been like that. But in these elections there has been active discussion of issues of foreign policy, at least to an equal extent, because Reagan has forced many Americans to think about what is taking place, and his exchanges with Mondale indeed deal primarily with problems of war and peace.

Unlike Reagan, Mondale has said that if he is elected into the White House, on the very first day he will dispatch a message to the Soviet Union proposing a freeze on nuclear tests and the commencement of talks. Reagan has now said this: I will go onto the offensive on economic issues, in other words, it is obvious that he wants to avoid those problem areas where he feels his own weakness, and move into economic problems where, by virtue of the current cyclical revival in America, he evidently feels himself to be stronger. And although a majority of observers are inclined to believe that Reagan will win, overall everything is not described in such clear-cut terms in the press.

A few days ago, there was a very interesting article in a Philadelphia newspaper, the author of which put forward ten points that he sees as Reagan's weak spots. The first of these was the most general one: Reagan cannot be considered to be invincible, and he quotes data from all polls that show that Reagan has around 50 percent of the people behind him -- perhaps a little more, perhaps a little less -- but that many people have not yet decided their position. Here there could be movement against Reagan. The second point is put very briefly: There are more Democrats. Numerically, the Democratic Party in America is much larger than the Republican Party.

[Levin] And it is better organized.

[Bovin] That is one of the writer's special points. He puts it this way: The organization of the Democratic Party. While the Democrats have organizations in every constituency, he writes that the Republicans have special organizations in only 100 of the 3,000 constituencies. Then there is the point concerning the Negro vote. The Negroes fear Reagan much more than they do Mondale, just as they once feared Goldwater, and they will therefore vote against Reagan. Then there is the point about Reagan's war. Many people think that if they elect Reagan, it means the start of war in Central America, in other words, he will send soldiers into Nicaragua. And since many Americans are frightened by this, they must oppose Reagan. Then there is the point of Reagan's friends. He writes that he has the kind of friends who believe that either the Russians or Jesus Christ will soon be landing on the shores of Long Island. And of course friends like that are something of a burden upon the President.

[Levin] Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich, the author of this article writes that with friends like that, Reagan doesn't need enemies.

[Bovin] Yes, yes, but that really is so. Then there is the luck factor. He says that so far Reagan has always been lucky. Ultimately, however, according to statistics, according to the law of probabilities, the more often he has enjoyed good luck in the past, the more often he will not have good luck in the future. And there is a very interesting conclusion: that in the case in point, it is not a question of a choice in favor of Mondale or a choice in favor of Reagan, it is a question of a choice in favor of Reagan or against Reagan. And if Americans come to the conclusion that they are against Reagan, then automatically Mondale will become president. That is the fairly curious article, which shows that despite the large score, so to speak, that Reagan has built up, in general terms the situation is not clear-cut yet: Fairly considerable debate is taking place in America itself, and everything has not yet been decided. Two months yet remain till the elections.

[Levin] I would add to this that currently, voices of protest in the United States against the course pursued by Reagan in foreign policy are noticeably growing. For instance, the public organization Union of Concerned Scientists has published a document that stresses directly: We consider it of primary importance to put an immediate stop to the elaboration and production of space weapons. This issue assumes particular urgency since the deployment of such weapons might bury all chances for curbing the arms race. Or, for instance, an organization that is not a Democratic or a Republican one, it is an extra-party organization called the Public Agenda Foundation, and has conducted a public opinion poll revealing very curious, very noteworthy things. The poll has shown that 96 percent, a huge number, consider it essential in the nuclear age to avoid any confrontation with the Soviet Union. Eighty-nine percent are convinced that no one will win a nuclear war. These are people who directly oppose Reagan's foreign policy.

An article has been published in THE NEW YORK TIMES under a very characteristic title, While It Is Still Not Too Late. The author of this article tries to prove that, while it is still not too late, it is necessary to enter into negotiations on preventing militarization of space.

[Shishlin] Yes, in the present case these would be gestures that would testify to the fact that the present U.S. Administration and Ronald Reagan know how to conduct business with the Soviet Union and are able not merely to quarrel with the Soviet Union but able to seek agreement on something, that on the level of gestures they would like this.

And in this sense, of course, now that we are at the threshold of another session of the UN General Assembly, we are evidently at the threshold of fairly turbulent diplomatic activity when there will be a great deal of meetings between high-ranking figures, there will be a great deal of negotiaions, and there will certainly be much of use in those negotiations. But regarding this very important, almost cardinal trend in foreign policy, the trend concerning Soviet-U.S. relations, one has to take into account the fact that today, the United States is interested in gestures. And as far as decisions and actions are concerned, it has to be said that even now, during the electoral campaign, there is even less room for action in the United States than was the case during all the years and months of Reagan's rule.

At present, of course their attention is obviously focused on the course of the electoral struggle itself and on how to out gallop opponents. This is why, of course, there is such a fairly dead, difficult, complicated phase in international affairs now, and what we talked about at the outset is all the more essential, all the more important. I am thinking of the dynamic foreign policy pursued by the Soviet Union. I am referring to this again since our opponents would like to present a totally different picture of Soviet foreign policy from what this policy represents in reality and to portray it as a stand in which...

[Bovin interrupting] As a very immovable, very rigid one...

[Shishlin interrupting] This is not the case at all. We lay no claims to a monopoly regarding the search for ways of improving the international atmosphere and we would be ready to hear any constructive ideas on the part of this very U.S. Administration. But there are no ideas, but actions running counter to the interests of improving Soviet-U.S. relations and international relations as a whole; there are more than enough such actions.

Canadian Elections

[Bovin] While we are still in North America, it is, perhaps, worth mentioning that elections were recently held in Canada and that a very substantial change has taken place. Over a period of many years, the Liberal Party was in power there. Trudeau had been prime minister I think, for almost 16 years on and off. And now a sharp, a very fundamental turn has taken place; 75 percent of the electorate voted for the so-called Progressive Conservative Party and evidently the government will be formed by the leader of this party, Brian Mulroney. All sorts of things are being written about him at the moment, but evidently, if one takes the average view expressed, he will, of course, be much closer to Reagan than Trudeau was. This is my view.

[Shishlin] In so far as I know, as far as the tactful and positive role of Canada in certain aspects of international relations is concerned, I think he values this and in particular he has made statements that can be understood as willingness to uphold businesslike and equal relations with the Soviet Union.

[Bovin] Evidently this is the case.

[Levin] Our confidence that the development of international relations can be improved, that there can be a return to the process of detente, is primarily based on the might of the Soviet Union and of the other countries of the socialist community. And today, on the day that People's Bulgaria marks 40 years of its existence, this subject should be given more attention.

Bulgarian Anniversary

[Bovin] Incidentally, it is not just Bulgaria. It is, in general, a time of 40th anniversaries; 40 years ago, on the eve of victory, East European countries entered upon a new path in life, so to speak, and so now we recently marked the Slovak National Uprising, and there will be holidays later.

[Levin] There was the 40th anniversary of People's Poland.

[Bovin] Yes, and in Romania.

[Levin] Incidentally, today the anniversary of the foundation of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea is also being marked. The country was liberated on 15 August 1945 as a result of heroic actions of the Soviet Army and Korean patriots and, in 1948, the Korean People's Democratic Republic was formed. In the past years it, too, has covered an immense path and has something to be proud of.

[Bovin] And so it is not, in general, just a Bulgarian 40th anniversary, so to speak. It is generally a festive time now, a time of 40th anniversaries in the life of the socialist countries.

[Levin] This is what I would like to note. Comrade Zhivkov said: The past four decades of socialist construction and selfless labor have been the most fruitful period in the whole history of our motherland's 13 centuries of statehood. And not long before then, Comrade Jaruzelski voiced a similar thought: Forty years is not a very long time in the history of Polish statehood, which is more than 1,000 years old, but it has no parallel in content and significance. So, I think these two statements show very clearly the dynamism of socialism and its huge transforming power.

When we take a concrete look at the results that the fraternal countries are able to show at the time of their celebrations, indeed we see that they have very outstanding and vivid achievements to their credit. In Comrade Zhivkov's evocative words, in the past 40 years, Bulgaria has covered the road from the wooden plough to modern electronic technology. This image is supported by most convincing concrete facts. In 40 years, the volume of industrial output in Bulgaria increased 70 times; the output of the power industry 108 times; of the chemical industry 460 times; and of machine tool building 1,130 times. Our Bulgarian comrades also note that about 40 percent of Bulgaria's export output is being produced at enterprises built with the assistance of the Soviet Union.

[Shishlin] This fact in itself is very important and exemplary. Bulgaria used to be an agrarian country, but now it has become an industrial-agrarian one and really has become an exporter of products from the machine tool building industry, with high product quality as well. Bulgaria's agriculture itself, as one can see today, has really been transformed. The Bulgarian comrades have found a sensible combination of public and private interests. They have created highly productive agro-industrial complexes. They are introducing modern technology in both arable and livestock farming. So one can generally say that Bulgaria's fame as a granary and a country that has always been known for its livestock and agricultural produce, vineyards etc., has increased.

But even this is not the most important thing. The main point is the new quality of life that has emerged in Bulgaria and in the other socialist countries, when people have social confidence, and when in general, we make no secret of the fact that there are also difficulties and complicated situations in the development of individual socialist countries, when there has been a straight ascending line indicating the growing prosperity of the people and satisfying people's needs. This line is being maintained, in essence -- but for certain exceptions and during complicated periods in individual socialist countries -- on the whole, this line is being maintained in the socialist world.

Forty years -- and you were right to quote Comrade Zhivkov and Comrade Jaruzelski -- is not a very long time, of course. The main thing perhaps is not in these two or three digit figures indicating the growth of production, the main point is the tendency. The main point is that the socialist system really boosts the economic development and also gives certain quite novel structures for the political organization of society, in which the masses are really being drawn into the management of state and public affairs, and in which the perfecting of democracy is an imperative, a requirement for socialism. I shall make no detailed mention of the achievements in the sphere of culture, and the enrichment of culture taking place on a national basis as well as in the framework of the interaction among national cultures. All this is extremely interesting and in itself holds multiple significance. It leads to the conviction that the past 40 years have created a very good base for the confident forward movement of the socialist countries in all directions of social development.

New Ethiopian Government

[Levin] The document adopted by the recent summit conference in Moscow for CEMA member-states -- the declaration on the main directions in the further development and deepening of economic and scientific-technical cooperation among CEMA member-states -- contains the following thought: The increased economic power of CEMA member-states has become the material basis for their policy of peace, easing of international tension and mutually advantageous cooperation with other states. This, too, is a factor which, in our present troubled period in time, has a very clear and convincing influence. The forward movement of mankind clearly demonstrates that the attempts by any administration to halt progress are futile and doomed to fail. This is borne out by yet another event that took place this last week. The formation of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia marks an important event in the development of the revolutionary process and serves as confirmation of the life-giving power of Marxist-Leninist ideas. By now, the program of the national-democratic revolution in Ethiopia has on the whole been implemented. A 10-year plan for economic and social development is being drawn up. As Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam said, the task is to create a people's democratic republic in Ethiopia where socialist legality as well as the principles of national equality will prevail.

[Bovin] It is interesting that, unlike, say, the countries we have been talking about, Ethiopia is on the eve of its 10th not 40th anniversary. The 10th anniversary of the national democratic revolution in Ethiopia falls on 12 September. Here we can see the difference. Indeed there are most diverse kinds of revolutions. Whereas in the countries of Eastern Europe to start with there were Marxist-Leninist parties that were already in existence and so played the leading role in the revolution, the situation in Ethiopia was quite different. In Ethiopia, the revolution took place first, a national-democratic revolution, and only afterwards began the formation of a vanguard party of the working people. This took quite a long time, because it was only in December 1979 that this task was set and a commission was formed to organize the party. This complicated process went on for nearly 5 years. Now it has been completed at the first congress of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia with the formation of this vanguard Marxist-Leninist party, as the Ethiopian comrades say.

[Shishlin] But, of course, in this case there is something general, too, that can be gleaned from what is taking place in Ethiopia. This is probably the thought usually expressed in the fact that the march of social progress is unstoppable and no force can block the way for these social changes. This is true, of course, this is true.

But I think there is here yet another general thought that can be seen in what is happening now in Ethiopia and in other countries developing along the progressive path in the zone of the so-called Third World.

It is this: The fact that links in the forces that want changes for the better in international affairs and changes for the better in their own countries are becoming more numerous. I have in mind forces such as the socialist community, the forces of national and social liberation, the forces of revolution, and the forces of democracy. It seems to me that of themselves, these forces and the dynamics of their development indicate that in our complicated and difficult world by no means everything is painted in dull and dark shades. There are plenty of cheerful and happy colors that of course cannot be smudged by the negative actions being undertaken by the forces of imperialism with a view to halting the movement of mankind toward a better future.

[Levin] With this we end our program. Thank you, esteemed comrades, for your attention, and all the best.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'

LD072250 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1015 GMT 7 Sep 84

["International Situation: Questions & Answers" program presented by Yevgeniy Viktorovich Kachanov, All-Union Radio foreign policy commentator; with Anatoliy Krasikov, TASS observer; Boris Vasilyevich Andrianov, foreign policy commentator; and Oleg Maksimenko, All-Union Radio Paris correspondent]

Space Weapons Talks

[Excerpt] [Kachanov] [Passage omitted: Several listeners write about the foreign policy course of the CPSU, and contrast it with that of the Reagan administration, with particular reference to contrasting attitudes toward the arms race and peace. Chernenko's replies to PRAVDA are cited by listeners as yet further evidence of the USSR's will to peace. More and more voices are being raised in the United States and throughout the world about the need for a positive U.S. response to Soviet peace initiatives, especially those concerning limits on the arms race in space] An important problem raised by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko in his replies to questions from PRAVDA engages the attention of our listeners: the attitude of the USSR to dialogue with the United States under existing donditions. This is the subject of letters from our listeners, Bekmailov from Sterlitamak, Sergey Nikolayevich Ukhtoskiy from Voronezh, Nikolay Prasolov from Kerch, and many others.

Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko again stated unambiguously that we are always in favor of serious and specific negotiations. We do not need to be persuaded of the benefits of such dialogue.

However, serious and productive negotiations are possible only with strict observance of the principle of equality and equal security for the sides. Washington's renunciation of this principle was what led to the break-off of the Geneva talks on limiting and reducing medium-range nuclear weapons. The United States went there not with constructive aims, but with the intention of achieving a resolution giving it military supremacy over the Soviet Union. Of course, such negotiations can have no purpose.

Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko reaffirmed with full clarity our readiness for dialogue, for honest and serious talks aimed at finding accord and taking security interests of all countries and peoples into account. That is precisely our understanding of the word dialogue.

Japanese Militarism

Yakov Tikhonovich Makarov from the village of Krivorozhye, Penza Oblast, and a number of other regular listeners to our program, are interested in several issues relating to the militarist course of the Japanese Government. I shall ask Boris Vasilyevich Andrianov, our foreign policy commentator, to satisfy these requests.

[Andrianov] Japan's military preparations may be said to have taken on increasing dimensions with the assumption of the Yasuhiro Nakasone cabinet to power in November 1982. Heating up the militaristic boom, the Japanese ruling circles have tried to justify the latter by their aspiration to heighten the country's political role in the world arena, a role that does not accord with Japan's economic might. To put it briefly, in official Tokyo's opinion, the country's political weight allegedly depends upon its military potential. Aiming to cover up the aggressive tendency of the policy of militarizing Japan, the Nakasone government has launched a broad propaganda campaign to brainwash the public, asserting that the only thing involved is ensuring the country's security. To make it more convincing, the hackneyed fantasy about a growing threat from the Soviet Union was spread about. Territorial pretensions against our country inflated by official Tokyo but wholly unfounded, helped to whip up anti-Soviet feelings. All this makes it possible to say that the former spirit of militarism which led this country to defeat in the final stage of the Second World War 39 years ago, is being resurrected in Japanese ruling circles.

[Kachanov] Yet the Constitution currently in force in Japan contains an antiwar article which is a burden to the militaristic circles and hinders them from rapidly progressing to their goal like a ball and chain.

[Andrianov] They have indeed taken it into their heads to get rid of such balls and chains, if I may put it that way, as soon as possible. The increasingly insistent attempts to re-examine all the basic principles of Japanese national policy serve to confirm this. These relate not only to issues of the country's defense, but also touch upon a very broad circle of contiguous problems. First and foremost, those articles of Japanese fundamental law dealing with the renunciation of armed forces and the rejection of the right to resort to war as a means of state policy, are being threatened. The non-nuclear principles, as well as the restriction of military expenditure to 1 percent of the gross national product, repudiation of arms exports and a number of other political priorities and traditions are also being subjected to fierce attacks.

Trumpeting about the interests of the country's security, official Tokyo spokesmen assert that this can be ensured, so they say, only by strengthening Japan's strategic partnership with the United States. However, such an argument is nothing but a coverup for the real designs of the Japanese leaders. As far back as May 1983, Yasuhiro Nakasone declared for the first time that he fully supports the global policy of the Reagan administration, that is, its course towards the arms race, further whipping up of international tension, and direct confrontation with the forces of peace and social progress. In this case, what bearing does this have on the interests of the security of the Japanese archipelago? None whatsoever.

[Kachanov] Boris Vasilyevich, about a week ago the Japanese National Defense Agency published a new draft military budget for the 1985 fiscal year. How does this differ from the current one?

[Andrianov] Primarily in the Japanese brasshats' demand for another increase in allocations for the militarization of the country, an increase of 7 percent over what was allocated in the current fiscal year. The descendants of the Samurais are calculating on obtaining a record sum, 3.140 trillion yen. These are to be spent on widescale purchases of the latest military technology, on enhancing the combat readiness of the so-called Self-Defense Forces and on maintaining the American military bases and installations on Japanese territory. With every year, the Land of the Rising Sun is increasing its militarist allocations. Japan has already risen to occupy eighth place in the world in the scale of such expenditure, and it is overtaking other developed capitalist countries in the speed at which this spending is growing. The Japanese armed forces have already assumed such dimensions and fire power that they can by no means be called Self-Defense Forces, even were one to stretch the point. Indeed, the functions assigned to these forces bear witness to the offensive nature of the planned actions of the Japanese ground troops, Air Force and Navy.

It is no secret, for example, that the Nakasone government is making active preparations to fulfill the obligations it has made to Washington to guard sea communications in a radius of 1,000 nautical miles from Japan's shores. Now this country occupies fifth place in the world in terms of the number of surface war ships, and eighth place in terms of the number of submarines. Regarding the number of fighting aircraft at its disposal, Japan is for the time being in 15th place. However, such an ommission is soon to be remedied: In accordance with the 5-year program of arms modernization started last year, Japan is to acquire 350 modern fighter bombers from the United States. Then, Japan will be on a par with Britain in terms of the might of its Air Force.

By that time, the Army and Navy will also be striding toward fresh horizons in their military equipment level. The Japanese generals are making no secret of their calculations to bring the might of the armed forces to such a level as to ensure that they can carry out prolonged combat operations, and far beyond the limits of the Japanese archipelago, at that.

[Kachanov] Well, it should be said that the Nakasone government's policy of militarization has been brought about by interests other than the national interests of the Japanese people. Official Tokyo's policy is laid down by the bosses of the monopolies, the representatives of the military-industrial complex. It is they, as the saying goes, who pay the piper and call the tune, to which the Liberal Democratic Party governing Japan dances.

[Andrianov] The arms race is a gold mine for the Japanese arms kings, too. The militarization of Japan has given rise to an unprecedented boom in that country's military industry. And in the meantime, the Japanese National Defense Agency has already started to draw up the next military program for the period 1988-1992. The Japanese newspaper NIHON KEIZI, describing the latest 5-year plan for modernization of weaponry, says that the essence of this boils down to further increasing the strike power of the Japanese army and equipping it with the most-up-to-date technology. And it is no accident that the merchants of death in Japan are already gleefully rubbing their hands in the expectation of new orders -- that means fresh and abundant profits. The appetites of the representatives of military big business are clearly growing. The Japanese KYODO TSUSHIN agency has reported that one industrial leader, (Tadasi Sadaki), has called for the Nakasone cabinet to in the future refuse to limit the size of the military budget to within 1 percent of GNP.

However, the majority of the Japanese people adhere to quite a different opinion. According to a public opinion poll carried out by the ASAHI newspaper, 70 percent of Japanese voters declared that the country's security should be maintained through peaceful diplomacy, not by means of an increase in the country's military muscles.

Situation in Afghanistan

[Kachanov] Yakov Ivanovich Burkov from Archangel Oblast, a Great Patriotic War veteran, asks us to report in detail about Afghanistan. He asks, in particular, what the situation in industry and agriculture is in that country. These questions, Yakov Ivanovich writes, are prompted by the fact that Western radio stations draw an obviously distorted picture of the situation in Afghanistan. Our permanent listener Aleksandr Shutin from Orekhovo-Zuyevo, asks the question about the American advisers who guide the operations of the dushman bands. He writes that the favorite hobby-horse of American propaganda is the claim that there are no U.S. advisers on the territory of Afghanistan. But facts speak of the opposite.

Here is the testimony of one Abdol Samad, a close assistant of Ahmad Shah Mas'ud ringleader of the counterrevolutionary group Jami'et-e Eslami in the Panjsher River Valley. Well, he said that American, British, French and other advisers who have illegally infiltrated the territory of the republic from across the border with Pakistan often stayed at his house. Things were arranged so that they were not seen by others.

To support the foreigners, Abdul Samad reported, they had a special budget from requisitions among the population. The overwhelming majority of the foreign guests knew Dari, the language spoken by the local populace, and they would appear among the people only in Afghan national costume.

During instruction hours they engaged mainly in the military training and education of Jami'et-e Eslami. They would teach the bandits how to use Western armaments, including chemical weapons, combat tactics and sabotage operations. In their free time, these advisers in Abdul Samad's words, lived it up. They would amuse themselves and go on hunts for historical and cultural valuables of the Afghan people that could be sold at a good profit abroad. A specially popular occupation of theirs was the hunt for the famous Panjsher emeralds. Among the Americans there were even mining experts who organized actual mining of emerald deposits. They would forcibly drive the local populace to work, and would shoot those who refused, on the spot.

Abdul Wahed, a captured leader of a bandit group, said that he had been personally acquainted with one Willy Stolman, who represented himself as a citizen of the FRG, although it was well known that he was American. Well, this adviser brought a mass of children's toys with him to Afghanistan to amuse the local youngsters, as he put it. But, in fact, the toys were stuffed with explosives and could be blown up by electronic signal at the wish of the person planting them. These toys were planned to be used to mount attacks on government institutions.

The testimony I have told you about was cited at a press conference at the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs. There is no need to doubt the authenticity of them, and it should be added that there are tens if not hundreds of similar examples that could be cited. Of course, however, the Western radios prefer to keep silent about the unsavoury activities of these advisers, since it is not only that these activities are of an obviously inhumane character, they are also a violation of international law. Attempts are made to present the Americans in Afghanistan as some kind of volunteers. But here again, facts refute the lies of Western propaganda. No, seized documents, instructions, tables of figures of equipment irrefutably prove that these are not volunteers and not even mercenaries, but cadre officers of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Today we have answered only one of many questions about the situation in Afghanistan. We will continue this conversation in subsequent broadcasts. We will also report on the economy and social reforms, the struggle against the counterrevolution and against interference from outside in the affairs of the Afghan people.

New Government in New Zealand

Our listeners Sergey Odintsovykh, of Vladimir, Martipov, of Ulan-Ude, and Rudney, of Kharkov, ask us to talk about the new government in New Zealand. As you know, it was formed by the New Zealand Labor Party after its victory in the July parliamentary election. Labor's success largely resulted from the fact that it included in its election program a clause about reviewing the terms of New Zealand's participation in the ANZUS military bloc, which also includes Australia and the United States. In particular, Labor promised to ban visits by U.S. nuclear vessels to New Zealand ports. This promise took the mood of the broadest possible strata of the country's population into account, the overwhelming majority of whom resolutely demands that American nuclear death be removed from the country's ports.

Let us remind you that the municipal council of Wellington, the New Zealand capital, had long since declared the area of the capital a zone of peace. The Labor government has come out in favor of declaring the entire southern Pacific a nuclear-free zone.

This intention by David Lange's government provoked acute dissatisfaction in Washington from the very start, and was the cause of the current sharp conflict between New Zealand and the United States.

Secretary of State Shultz, who attended the recent session of the ANZUS bloc in Wellington, exerted strong pressure on New Zealand. He threatened to strip it of the notorious U.S. nuclear umbrella, and adopt economic sanctions. There should be no doubt that Washington has many levers with which to pressure the New Zealand Government, and U.S. imperialism has stored up much experience in such unsavory matters, in pursuing its notorious policy of arm-twisting.

However, New Zealand Prime Minister Lange has recently reaffirmed more than once his firm resolve to keep his election promise, and to ban U.S. warships from calling at the country's ports.

At the recent conference of heads of South Pacific countries, New Zealand, like other participants in this forum, backed the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in this region. Prime Minister Lange spoke at the conference in favor of a speedy ban on nuclear tests and the deployment of nuclear weapons in the region, and against the burial of nuclear waste in the ocean. In an interview granted to the Japanese paper ASAHI, Lange also reaffirmed New Zealand's intention of reviewing the terms of its participation in the ANZUS bloc. At the same time, he stated that the United States is an important ally of New Zealand, which so far has no intention of unilaterally leaving the bloc.

GROMYKO CONFIRMED AS HEAD OF UN DELEGATION

LD091526 Moscow TASS in English 1621 GMT 9 Sep 84

[Text] Moscow September 9 TASS -- In connection with the U.N. General Assembly's 39th session which opens on September 18, the Council of Ministers of the USSR has confirmed a USSR delegation to be headed by Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR.

The Council of Ministers of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic has confirmed a Ukrainian delegation to be headed by Vladimir Martynenko, the republic's minister of foreign affairs.

The Council of Ministers of the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic has confirmed a Belorussian delegation to be headed by Anatoliy Gurinovich, the republic's minister of foreign affairs.

CHERNENKO REPLIES TO PRAVDA ISSUED AT UN

LD080226 Moscow TASS in English 1753 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] New York September 7 TASS -- The text of the replies of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, to the questions of the newspaper PRAVDA, which was published on September 2, 1984, has been issued at the United Nations Organisation as an official document of the upcoming 39th U.N. General Assembly session.

U.S. AEROSPACE COMMAND TO BECOME SEPARATE SERVICE

LD100658 Moscow TASS in English 0644 GMT 10 Sep 84

[Text] New York September 10 TASS -- As was reported by the American NBC television company, the aerospace command, which was recently formed within the framework of the U.S. Air Force, is to be transformed in the near fuure into headquarters of a separate armed service. Its task will be to coordinate activities of different American departments and research centres of preparation for "Star Wars".

In its new documentary film "Real Star Wars" the television company cites other convincing evidence of the fact that contrary to demands of broad strata of the world public to prevent outer space from being turned into an arena of the arms race, the Reagan administration is speeding up realisation of its reckless plans of militarisation of outer space.

SHULTZ REFUSES TO ANSWER USSR'S SPACE PROPOSAL

LD100640 Moscow TASS in English 0635 GMT 10 Sep 84

[Text] Washington September 10 TASS -- U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz made it clear that Washington does not intend to slow down the pace of "modernisation" of the U.S. nuclear and conventional potential, for which about 2 trillion dollars are to be spent in the coming five-year period.

Speaking in the NBC T.V. programme, the U.S. secretary of state again refused to give an answer to the USSR's proposal on introduction of mutual moratorium on tests and deployment of attack space systems. He described the development of the anti-missile defence system with elements of space-basing mode as an essential part of the programme of the build-up of U.S. armaments.

U.S.-USSR RELATIONS AT LOWEST LEVEL IN HISTORY

LD090550 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0325 GMT 9 Sep 84

[Text] Moscow, 9 Sep (TASS) -- Anatoliy Krasikov, TASS political observer writes:

The President of the United States -- once more! -- has undertaken an attempt to deceive the world public. In an interview prepared for the London paper SUNDAY TIMES, he assured that he will resolutely strive for the reduction of armaments and the lessening of the threat of nuclear war. If one should believe Mr Reagan, there is "not a more important consideration for him than the development of better working relations with the Soviet Union."

Meanwhile, his words are being refuted by his concrete deeds, by that policy the present U.S. Administration -- which deserves a better utilization -- has so persistently been implementing since it came to power. It has done much to shatter, and even worse, to destroy that which was created by its predecessors. As graphically described by Andrey Gromyko, the U.S. Government has done some work with a big stick striking blows here and there at one or another agreement. In fact, only very little has remained of that which was done earlier by both sides -- the Soviet Union and the United States -- in their common interests.

"If prizes were awarded for this destructive work, for the undermining of agreements which aim at strengthening the peace cause, the present Washington administration could justifiably claim the prize," the leader of the Soviet foreign political office said.

The man who is in the highest post of the U.S. Government and who is striving to hold this post in the future has become a victim of dangerous illusions. Mr Reagan has made himself believe, and at the same time made many citizens of his country believe, that talks with the Soviet Union can only be conducted from the position of American strength. Now he is surprised that he is not achieving any talks with the USSR.

Indeed, the relations between the two world superpowers have fallen to the lowest level in their entire history. For the first time in decades, there are no talks on the most acute problem of the present time -- the limitation and reduction of nuclear arms. Instead, mankind is starting a new spiral in the arms race, when the creation of more and more destructive types of weapons is threatening to get out of hand and turn into an irreversible process leading directly to a disaster.

Even now, the President continues to look at the world around him with the blindfold he put on his eyes, which is why he sees nonreality, pictures promoted by his imagination.

Mr Reagan blames Soviet leaders, saying they do not wish to have a dialogue with him and accompanying his accusations with fantasies of various types. He poses as a deceived child and does not notice, or does not want to notice, that only he deceived himself.

The Soviet Union will never allow itself to be talked to in a language of diktat. It will not permit military supremacy of the United States nor will it allow the violation of that which was previously recognized by official Washington and is presently rejected by its principles of equality and equal security. The USSR will continue in the future to strive for the mutual recognition of legal interests and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

For the USSR, talks on equal terms are not only possible but necessary. Replying to the questions of PRAVDA on 2 September of this year, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko confirmed quite definitively the readiness for a dialogue, for honest and serious talks, aiming to find agreements taking into account the security of all countries and peoples.

The choice between the general destruction and the peaceful existence and cooperation of states with different systems is still possible, but in order to avoid that which is irreparable, it is necessary to stop deceiving oneself and others.

U.S. POSIITON ON STRENGTH, PEACE POLICY COMPARED

LD091631 Moscow TASS in English 1618 GMT 9 Sep 84

[Text] Washington September 9 TASS -- President Reagan during his election campaign has set before himself an obviously unfeasible task. On the one hand, as his recent speech at the convention of the reactionary organisation "American Legion" has shown, he overtly advocates the "position-of-strength" policy and specially puts it down to the credit of his administration the unprecedented build-up of U.S. conventional and nuclear potential. On the other hand -- and again, for election-year considerations -- he does not mind putting on the mask of a sort of "peacemaker" and talking about the U.S. Administration's "striving" for peace and for talks with the Soviet Union. In his recent interview to the London newspaper SUNDAY TIMES he proclaimed that if reelected he will set it as his task to achieve peace and reduce armaments.

This "peacable" election-year rhetoric enters into an increasing conflict with facts.

Scarcely had the SUNDAY TIMES published the President's interview when it became known that at the end of the month already the U.S. Navy will start to purchase "Trident-2" missiles for nuclear missile carrying submarines instead of "Trident-1" missiles, as the NEW YORK TIMES writes, this will become a step which will have far-reaching consequences for the structure of the U.S. nuclear forces, because the new missiles by their yield and accuracy by far excel "Trident-1" and, alongside MX missile, will become a new powerful first-strike nuclear weapon.

The aggressive intentions of the Reagan administration are also evidenced by the fact that it seeks to undividedly manage nuclear systems and flatly opposes the idea that U.S. Congress should have if only some right of vote in a decision on the use of nuclear weapons. Jeremy Stone, director of the Federation of American scientists, in an article published in the FOREIGN POLICY journal, has pointed out the acute danger to the United States of such a situation when the country's president may undividedly order the delivery of a first nuclear strike. The author writes that the President is not the king of the Americans and that the United States is not a kingdom the destiny of which he can rule as he thinks fit. Mr Stone declared for the setting up of a special nuclear planning committee in U.S. Congress, a committee without whose sanction a first use of nuclear weapons would be banned.

However, even such a limited proposal the aim of which is to lessen the probability of outbreak of a nuclear catastrophe, has been given a hostile reception by the Pentagon. A letter sent to Mr Stone on behalf of the secretary of defence by C. Cox, the Pentagon's general counsel, speaks of diagreement with this approach. It is emphasized in the letter that the President should retain the prerogative right to issue an order on the use of nuclear weapons.

The Reagan administration's course towards continuation of race of arms, nuclear ones, in the first place, and towards heightening tension and increasing confrontation with the Soviet Union was again confirmed at the convention of the ruling Republican Party. The "platform" which was adopted at the convention is yet another illustration of what is the real value of Washington's "peaceable" rhetoric.

Kornilov Commentary

LD091901 Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 9 Sep 84

[Text] Moscow September 9 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

The greater the concern and anxiety in Western Europe in connection with the U.S. militarist course, the more actively the Washington strategists try to play down the wave of anti-war activities and to "reassure" the NATO allies. Only recently the U.S. President, using the pages of the London TIMES, told the Europeans that his only concern is to ensure peace. This time the self-same British press has again been chosen as a mouthpiece for Washington's "peaceable" rhetoric: In a lengthy interview with the SUNDAY TIMES Ronald Reagan vows that if re-elected for another term his first-priority task will be to achieve peace and reduce arms.

This statement is hard to believe. Because while the U.S. President speaks before the Europeans in favour of the cause of peace, Western Europe is being converted at an accelerated pace into a staging area for U.S. "Pershing-2" and cruise missiles and into the Pentagon's nuclear hostage.

While Ronald Reagan states from the pages of the SUNDAY TIMES his adherence to the cause of disarmament, the U.S. military budget reaches 300,000 million dollars a year -- a record-high sum in the country's history, and Washington launches into production new and new tools of destruction and death -- nuclear, chemical, space and "conventional. [sentence as received] There is one characteristic detail: Scarcely had the SUNDAY TIMES published the President's interview, when it became known that already at the end of the month the U.S. Navy will purchase "Trident-2" missiles for nuclear missile-carrying submarines instead of "Trident-1" missiles. "Trident-2", together with MX missiles, will become a new powerful first-strike nuclear weapon.

The U.S. President stated in his interview that the United States strives for a dialogue and for talks. And this is said by the head of the same administration which has wrecked the Geneva talks on nuclear arms, blocked the question of banning chemical weapons, and refused to solve the problem of preventing militarisation of outer space. The self-same administration which does not cease attempts at undermining the already existing accords on limiting strategic offensive arms and which does everything to create an artificial barrier to the realisation of any measures which are called upon to stop and reverse the material preparation for war.

The U.S. President declares from the pages of the SUNDAY TIMES that it is essential to find the way to eliminate the use of force and the theat of its use. As if the European public does not know that it is precisely Washington, which has declared almost the entire planet to be the "sphere of American vital interests", that regards force as virtually the only instrument of its foreign policy and shows this again and again in various regions in the world, staging direct interventions against sovereign states as was the case, for example, in Grenada or unleashing veritable undeclared wars against those states, as is happening today with regard to Nicaragua. As if the readers of the SUNDAY TIMES are not given to know the contents of the political platform which has been adopted by the convention of the U.S. ruling Republican party and which confirms and seals the lines towards continuation of the U.S. course of force and confrontation with regard to the USSR and in international affairs as a whole.

Of course, the so-called "peaceable", or to be more exact, pseudopeaceable rhetoric of Washington is likewise part and parcel of its foreign policy. But that rhetoric, however hard its makers try, will not conceal the pivot of the policy and will not absolve militarism. Not hypocritical assurances as to allegiance to peace but real turn from the policy of militarism and aggression to a policy of peace and international cooperation -- this is what both European and international public expects and demands from the U.S. rulers.

PENTAGON EXPEDIITES RESEARCH ON SPACE WEAPONS

LD080318 Moscow TASS in English 2120 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] New York September 7 TASS -- The Pentagon has ordered its major research centres to expedite work on developing an anti-missile defence space network, the NBC television company has reported.

...On the screen is the Kirkland Air Force Base, New Mexico, where work is currently under way on creating laser weapons capable of destroying space objects thousands of miles away. The pace of work is such, the NBC notes, that the laster system may be completed for testing in 1990.

Another programme, carried out in line with the White House's "Star Wars" plans -- the development of particle beam weapons -- is being implemented in utter secrecy at the atomic laboratory in Los Alamos, New Mexico. The Pentagon, the television company observes, intends to decide on the deployment of these weapons on board orbital stations not later than 1993.

Researchers at the Ernst Lawrence Radiation Laboratory in California have been given the assignment of developing ray weapons by the mid-1990s. They intend using the radiation produced during an explosion of a hydrogen bomb to destroy objects in space.

By boosting the development of anti-missile space weapons, the Reagan administration is, in fact, undermining one of the major arms control accords -- the Soviet-American ABM treaty.

NEW YORK TIMES columnist Flora Lewis stresses in this connection that the true aim of these attempts is to establish U.S. military domination in outer space in order to dominate on earth.

CIA'S LATEST SOVIET THREAT INVENTIONS REFUTED

LD080234 Moscow TASS in English 1850 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] Moscow September 7 TASS -- TASS commentator Leonid Ponomarev writes:

Every time the American Administration contemplates an international adventure, a campaign is mounted in Washington in accordance with the C.I.A.'s hackneyed scenario "The Russians Are Coming". As follows from a report in today's WASHINGTON POST, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency has prepared for government a memorandum on "possible actions" of the USSR on the international scene in the near future. It is claimed, in particular, that the Soviet Union might try to capture the Persian Gulf, launch an offensive against Western Europe and even deal a first strike at the United States.

The authors of the memorandum are not at all embarrassed by the fact that such viciously anti-Soviet forecasts, compiled to scare world public opinion, have been conjured up in Washington also before, and very often at that. But all of these inventions have burst like soap bubbles — sometimes with a tragic outcome for the inventors themselves. Suffice it to recall the 1949 suicide of U.S. Defense Secretary James Forrestal who jumped out a window of a military hospital in Bethesda after fancying he saw Russian tanks rumbling in Washington's suburbs.

The C.I.A.'s latest inventions about a "Soviet threat" are designed to cover up Washington's own adventures. Commenting on the U.S. Administration's plans, the newspaper PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER said, for instance, that very few of the high-ranking officials in the know in Washington doubted that American troops would be soon dispatched to Central America or the Persian Gulf if Reagan was re-elected.

It is apparently there that the true rationale of Washington's circulation of anti-Soviet allegations lies.

As to the "Russians' offensive" in Western Europe, the West Europeans are not so credulous and, despite the scare campaign overseas, are not falling into panic, which Washington would like them to do so much.

Most West Europeans are able to make out whence the real threat to their security. This is why millions of people in Western Europe are active in the campaign against the deployment of American nuclear-tipped medium-range Pershing-II and cruise missiles. The U.S. Administration's practical steps to convert Western Europe into a nuclear staging area serve as a warning that the policy of the American Government is directed at nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union, which is fraught with grave consequences.

ZORIN: U.S. MILITARY SUPERIORITY UNATTAINABLE

LD080555 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 7 Sep 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Hello Comrades! The foreign press organs are continuing to comment on Comrade Chernenko's replies to questions by PRAVDA. A more profound analysis has replaced the first newspaper reaction. In particular, this is contained in the issues of political weeklies that have just come out. The authors of the commentaries are devoting much attention to the Soviet leader's warning that plans to obtain military superiority over the Soviet Union in the hope of prevailing in a nuclear war are unrealizable. This statement is regarded as a direct and unambiguous answer to one of the main tenets contained in the Republican Party program adopted at its recent convention. This document, which contains the main directions of the Republican Party's activity in the next 4 years if it succeeds in retaining the reins of government during the 6 November elections, proclaims banking on force as its main thesis as the basis for the foreign policy of the United States, and first of all, in Soviet-U.S. relations.

Strictly speaking, there is nothing especially new in such a premise. Even the authors of the foreign policy course of the United States in the first postwar years called its policy from a position of strength. One can only be surprised at the Washington leaders' inability to draw conclusions from their own mistakes and failures. Immense efforts and hundreds of billions of dollars were spent by Washington in a few decades to acquire military superiority over the Soviet Union. However, this goal was not achieved. The Soviet Union did everything in its power to foil Washington's plans and as a result, the military-strategic balance in the world between the confronting blocs has become a basic factor in today's world situation.

The race for superiority over the Soviet Union is costing the United States dearly. Seeking to secure its political base and to compel Americans to accept the excessive expenditures for military purposes, the leaders of the Reagan administration have been resorting to a dishonest trick in the last few years. They state that the buildup of the arms race being carried out by them pursues the aim of catching up with the Soviet Union and of not permitting Soviet military superiority. Well, in this sense perhaps the Republican Party program contains something new. It indicates as an outright aim that the U.S. Armed Forces should not be surpassed. In other words, this time the aim of achieving U.S. military superiority is being openly proclaimed. Well, it is perfectly obvious that such an aim set in the Republican Party program is completely unattainable.

If the United States was unable to achieve superiority over the Soviet Union in the first postwar decades, what can it hope for today, when our country possesses an immense potential and inexhaustible resources. It is for this reason that Comrade Chernenko's statement stressing that the Soviet Union itself does not seek military superiority over others, but will also not allow anyone else to achieve superiority over it, has made such a big impression throughout the world.

It is possible that some people in the United States still find it difficult to accustom themselves to this, but they will have to acknowledge the fact that our two states can conduct matters only on an equal footing, on the basis of consideration for each other's legitimate interests. There is no reasonable alternative to this.

PASTUKHOV HITS U.S. INTERFERENCE IN OTHER NATIONS

LD080649 Moscow TASS in English 0557 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Text] Moscow September 8 TASS -- Seeking to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union, Washington has launched the arms race whose scope has no precedents in history and has started the deployment in Western Europe of the nuclear-missile first-strike weapons. The U.S. has embarked upon the road of gross interference in the internal affairs of other countries and of an open aggression against a number of states, writes Nikolay Pastukhov, political news analyst of SELSKAYA ZHIZN. Looking at a political map of the world, one can easily see the areas at which Washington directs its poisoned arrows. From the Pakistani territory it sends to Afghanistan gangs of dushmans who commit outrages there. From the same Pakistani land subversive activities against India are launched, from which Washington strategists intend to tear away the Punjab state. From the territory of Thailand Pol Pot bandits raid Kampuchea. From Honduras Somoza terrorists are sent to Nicaragua. U.S. ships keep under the gun sight countries of the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea zones.

Lebanon's sovereignty is trampled underfoot with the help of Israel. A shameful aggression was staged against Grenada. A South Korean plane was sent to the Soviet air space on a spy mission. An aggression against Angola is staged with the help of racist-ruled South Africa. Preparations are carried on at an accelerated pace for the militarisation of outer space. This is a far from complete list of the crimes committed by the Washington administration in the past several years.

Against the background of these bloody actions, the Reagan team is expanding a place d'armes for ideological subversions and a "psychological war" of imperialism against socialist countries under the banner of the anti-communist "crusade". This is the essence of the imperial policy of the Washington administration which regards the whole of the globe as its sovereign domain. It is this policy that has dramatically aggravated the international tension and put mankind on the brink of a nuclear catastrophe.

This is why each peace initiative of the Soviet Union meets with such an eager response in the broadest public and political circles in all the continents. Worldwide comments on the answers of Konstantin Chernenko to questions of PRAVDA and on his speech during the presentation of awards to Soviet cosmonauts in the Kremlin are typical in this respect. They are keynoted by the idea that the Soviet Union firmly and consistently comes out for the policy of realism and commonsense, for a dialogue and negotiations on major political problems on whose solution the destiny of the world depends. The commentaries stress that the USSR strongly denounces the imperial ambitions of the United States, its reliance on force, its claims for deciding the destinies of nations and diktating its will to them, as well its exaggeration of the role and place of America in the present-day world. The foreign press stresses the firm striving of the Soviet Union to prevent the militarisation of outer space and the constructive approach of the USSR to achieving understanding on this problem which would be vital for mankind, the political analyst stresses.

REAGAN STAKING ELECTION PLATFORM ON FORCE

LD092306 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1315 GMT 8 Sep 84

[From the "International Review" program presented by Aleksandr Zholkver]

[Text] The past week has been marked by a fresh stepping up of our country's peaceful foreign policy.

Prominent state and public figures and the leading world press organs have assessed Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's replies to question from PRAVDA, which have been disseminated in the United Nations as an official document for the forthcoming General Assembly session, as a fresh confirmation of the USSR's readiness for dialogue and for honest and serious negotiations on major political issues, upon the solution of which the fate of the world depends. As is known, among these issues the problem of preventing the spread of the arms race to outer space has now assumed prime importance. In his speech when presenting awards to the Soviet cosmonauts, Comrade Chernenko reiterated our country's firm desire not to permit the militarization of space.

However, what is the reply of the Washington administration to all these manifestations of the Soviet Union's good will? There has been no shortage of speeches over the past week by the present boss of the White House, for now, as you know, the U.S. election campaign has entered the final lap, as the saying goes. During his election trip, which, it is true, is highly reminiscent of a Hollywood show, President Reagan sometimes makes several appearances a day.

What is the leitmotiv of all his speeches, then? Like the election platform of the Republican Party adopted at the Dallas convention, it is the stake upon force, upon crude military force. Reagan's speech at the conference of the archreacionary organization, the American Legion, was perhaps particularly frank on this account. Here he frankly described the unprecedented increase in the U.S. military potential aimed at attaining superiority over the USSR as a merit of his administration. Reagan devoted particular attention to a detailed description of the plans for creating space weapons.

The President's address to the American Legion was so frankly militaristic and inflammatory in nature that his Democratic Party rival, Mondale, despite the specific character of the audience he addressed immediately after the President, considered it necessary to make special mention of the adventurism of such a policy.

Three major American politicians former U.S. Ambassador to the USSR Harriman, former Secretary of Defense Clifford, and former special advisor on the USSR in Washington Shulmann -- have pointed out the dangers of the foreign policy course of the present Washington administration in a lengthy article published in THE NEW YORK TIMES. They unanimously refute the Reagan thesis to the effect that America's situation has allegedly become more secure with the increase in armaments. On the contrary, they declare, the new nuclear systems are creating an increasing menance of a conflict. Despite all Reagan's bragging, the article states, American policy is basically founded upon myths, illusions, and incorrect judgments.

A statement by the American League of Concerned Scientists published this week is also noteworthy. They describe as a very dangerous fantasy Reagan's assertion that the creation of an American space weapon would serve to further the security of the United States. It should be mentioned that American scientists are by no means the only ones to think this way. The majority of ordinary Americans think the same. One of the public opinion polls just conducted in the United States showed that 96 percent of Americans consider the confrontation between the United States and the USSR to be extremely dangerous in our nuclear age.

However, judging by the reports coming from across the ocean during the past week, Washington stubbornly has no wish to take any account of the warnings of American scientists and politicians nor of the opinion of simple Americans. Under White House pressure, the U.S. Congress, which this week has started its final session before the forthcoming November elections, began reviewing a record military budget for next year.

In U.S. military laboratories, development is forging ahead on the latest types of weaponry, including laser weapons. On U.S. television screens, features are constantly being shown about star wars, the preparation of which Reagan has proclaimed to be one of America's major national programs.

THE WASHINGTON POST quite frankly revealed last week just whose program this really is in a report about a secret meeting in the Pentagon with the leaders of the U.S. aerospace industry. The newspaper states bluntly that -- I quote -- a strong stimulus in favor of the President's star wars program comes from the aerospace companies, which are hoping to grab their share of the $26 billion which the administration plans to spend. One should point out that the American military monopolies are grabbing vast profits on the production of both new and old types of weapons.

U.S. HOLLYWOOD STYLE ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN SCORED

LD092255 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1855 GMT 7 Sep 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Cinemas in the United States are showing a film titled "Red Dawn". The screening of this film was preceded by an advertising campaign and propaganda talk unusual even for the United States. Clearly those who were interested in having the film seen by as many Americans as possible had no shortage of money. Millions of dollars had been spent freely to create an atmosphere of morbid curiosity around the new film. U.S. audiences -- which have long been trained to absorb values, both material and spiritual, under the influence of mass advertising -- swallowed the latest bait. According to press reports, there are long queues outside film theaters in U.S. towns. The content of this cinematic concoction provides a ready answer to the question why the film "Red Dawn" was given such extraordinary and enormously expensive advertising. It is an instance of crude anti-Soviet fraud. The film story describes how Soviet paratroopers capture a small town somewhere in the western states. The viewer is left in no doubt that the attackers have made simultaneous landings in many other towns, too, in a bid to take over the whole country. The author of the film proceeds to show a sequence of nightmarish scenes bound to stir up hatred in ordinary citizens toward people in Soviet military uniforms. A group of schoolchildren are called upon to fight the red villains in the film, as there happen to be no U.S. Army units in the small town. And so, these schoolchildren perform miracles, acting on the familiar principle of knocking down seven at a blow.

The critic of the Italian paper PAESE SERA describes his impression as follows: The most incredible thing is the astounding stupdity and absurdity of the story, which should make even a schoolchild laugh. The story is so silly, that in the course of the film's 2-hour run I kept hoping that it was merely a parody, and any moment some line or ironical scene would put everything in place. I was hoping in vain. The film is meant to be perfectly serious and matches the level of Hollywood productions, as well as the level of a certain and, unfortunately, not too small segment of American viewers.

I have told you about this film, comrades, because in my view this is not simply a Hollywood concoction. Had it been a case of just one foul film pasquinade, it may not have merited special mention. But the point is that "Red Dawn" is a typical example of the stupidities which the American public is being subjected to by those in power, systematically, on a grand scale, and sparing no expense. Every day U.S. television screens programs in a spirit hostile to the Soviet people. The U.S. book market is full of anti-Soviet rubbish. The theaters show films of the sort of "Red Dawn". Reagan's words about a crusade against the Soviet Union are being backed up by a vicious propagandist campaign, and its first victims are the Americans.

OLIN QUESTIONS REAGAN STATEMENT ON GENOCIDE

LD072314 Moscow World Service in English 2010 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] President Reagan has said the administration will press for the ratification of the international convention on the prevention and punishment of genocide by the U.S. Senate. Here is a commentary from Viktor Olin.

The convention was unanimously approved by the UN General Assembly in 1948, and since then it has been ratified by an overwhelming majority of UN members. The United States, however, has failed to ratify it to this day. For over 35 years the convention has been opposed by rightwing and conservative groups like the John Birch Society. These groups have been fearing that the ratification of the convention by the United States would provide legal grounds for indicting the U.S. Government and them over their policies toward the black Americans, the aggression in Vietnam, and other actions that can be interpreted as genocide.

What are the motives of the presidential announcement? It appears to be paradoxical since the President is known for his conservative views and supportive attitude toward the above-mentioned circles. The first motive that comes to mind is the approaching presidential elections in the United States. By pledging to get down to resolving that sensitive issue, President Reagan is hoping to acquire a political capital. After all, the American stand on the issue has come under sharp criticism around the world.

The directors of the presidential election campaign are hoping to catch the liberal votes by this move, but they have not forgotten about the hawks either. The Senate will hardly have the time to consider the issue of ratifying the convention at the present session and Mr. Reagan's pledge might be easily forgotten if he is returned to power. The pledge plays into the hands of conservative, racist, and other rightwing groups, which are accustomed to judge about Mr. Reagan by his actions rather than declarations. The President's approach to the issue of genocide proved that point.

Genocide is defined as acts with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group. The Nazis were the first to resort to genocide. President Reagan ostensibly condemns that criminal policy, but his actual attitude toward it is different. His administration extends over military, financial, and political support to the Israeli Government, which has proclaimed the extermination of the whole nation of the people of Palestine its goal. The recent Israeli aggression against Lebanon, supported by American weapons, inflicted death and suffering on millions of people. It was undertaken to achieve that goal. The United States has just reaffirmed its support for Israel, having vetoed a Security Council resolution condemning the Israeli policies of terror in the occupied parts of Lebanon.

The Reagan administration continues to send money and arms to the Salvadoran regime, which follows a policy of genocide against its people. The apartheid regime of South Africa is among America's best friends, despite the fact that it is waging a war of genocide to exterminate the African population of the country. The Reagan administration makes no secret of its readiness to use nuclear weapons to make the whole world the target of its own policy of genocide.

PENTAGON ANNOUNCES ANOTHER 'TOMAHAWK' TEST

LD091215 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 9 Sep 84

[Text] A spokesman for the Pentagon has announced that the United States has made another test of the sea-based Tomahawk cruise missile. The missile was launched from a submerged submarine. It was the 133d test of the nuclear-capable cruise missile. The U.S. Navy gives a prominent role to Tomahawk in the escalation of the nuclear arms race on seas. The United States is speedily supplying its ships and submarines with such missiles.

PRC PLENUM TO DISCUSS CONGRESS, ECONOMIC REFORM

LD071933 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1859 GMT 6 Sep 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] AFP has reported from Beijing that a plenum of the CPC Central Committee will meet next month to prepare for the 13th Party Congress that is to be held in 1985. This became known following a meeting between Hu Yaobang, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, and Japanese representatives. According to AFP, Hu Yaobang told the Japanese with whom he was speaking that in addition to questions concerning the forthcoming congress the plenum will also discuss reforming the present Chinese economic system.

There has been a great deal of material lately and even more speculation in the Western press about the debate within the Chinese leadership and the main trends in its foreign and domestic policy although, according to the London TIMES correspondent who recently accompanied Geoffrey Howe, British foreign secretary, on his visit to Beijing -- and I quote -- there is very little information about events inside China. THE TIMES correspondent adds that even to such questions as whether Deng Xiaoping is vacationing at the seaside or whether Hu Yaobang; the general secretary, is married, official spokeman as a rule reply: I cannot tell you exactly.

PRC STUDENTS' UNEQUAL ACCESS TO UNIVERSITIES NOTED

LD090408 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 7 Sep 84

[From "The World Today" presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] The Chinese press has published a report stating that a new system of admitting students is being introduced at some universities in the country. Those young people wishing to study at a university who can pay the fairly high fee for their training are admitted on especially preferential terms. In this way, children of families who have substantially enriched themselves as a result of the economic course pursued by Beijing in the last few years have serious advantages over the children of ordinary workers.

REPORTAGE, REACTION TO ROK LEADER'S JAPAN VISIT

Leaders Begin Talks in Tokyo

SK100426 Moscow International Service in Korean 1330 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] Talks have commenced in Tokyo between Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone and (?General) Chon Tu-hwan, the chieftain of the Seoul regime, who is visiting Japan. According to foreign press reports, the issues of Japan's transfer to South Korea of advanced technology that can be utilized for military purposes are being discussed at these talks. According to the same reports, other issues including the advance of Japan's Self-Defense Force to South Korea for the implementation of U.S. strategy, the blockading of straits, and the defense of sea routes in the Far East are also being discussed.

According to the views of many observers, the Seoul dictator's visit to Japan is part of the effort to form a new military bloc like NATO under the patronage of Washington.

This visit is being conducted amid suppression of the antimilitarist forces in both Japan and South Korea.

2d Round of Talks

SK100430 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Text] According to a TASS report from Tokyo, South Korean ruler Chon Tu-hwan is now in Japan. He will have a second round of talks with Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone today. The current visit is the first by the boss of the South Korean puppet clique since diplomatic relations were established between Tokyo and Seoul in 1965.

The Japanese authorities have placed the capital city under virtual emergency status for fear of demonstrations by the Japanese working people against the visit to Japan by the dictator who mercilessly submerged the Kwangju popular uprising into a sea of blood.

Police traffic cordons have been established in three different areas of Tokyo to check and search all vehicles. A helicopter and warplane are maintaining a watch over the city from the air. The metropolitan police force, including plainclothes policemen and security agents, are searching the whole of Tokyo City day and night, and more than 23,000 policemen are on alert status.

Talks End 8 Sep

SK100557 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Text] Talks between Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone and Seoul dictator Chon Tu-hwan have ended in Tokyo. Japanese publications wrote that the talks were held in a bid to further aggravate the situation on the Korean peninsula and to help Seoul accelerate war preparations under the active support of the Japanese Government and Washington.

The Japanese paper, AKAHATA, said that the Japan-South Korea talks (?discussed) the situation in the Far East where the (?military collusion) between the United States, Japan, and South Korea has been consolidated.

Japan fully supports the South Korean side's stand of trying to perpetuate the country's division into North and South.

Military Issues Stressed

LD092341 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 8 Sep 84

[From "International Diary" program presented by Sergey Fanton]

[Text] The South Korean dictator Chon Tu-hwan has been in Tokyo for 3 days.

As reported by news agencies, the talks were primarily devoted to military issues, the knocking together of an aggressive bloc with the participation of Japan and South Korea under Washington's patronage.

We have asked our correspondent in Tokyo, Igor Vykhukholev, to comment on Chon Tu-hwan's talks with Prime Minister Nakasone, and the communique on the results of that visit:

The communique's emphasis is put on the political significance of Chon Tu-hwan's visit, which is termed historical, opening a new chapter in the history of the two countries' relations. There are many reassurances in the document to the effect that the two countries will strive for peace, stability, and prosperity in the region. They will endeavor to achieve this through a mutual build-up of military might, attested to by the communique's short mention of Japan's approval of South Korea's so-called defense efforts. However much the official circles of both countries wanted to dispel the publics' fears that the visit would create the foundations for establishing a military alliance between the two countries, they did not succeed. The first negotiations between the two countries' senior military leaders were held in Tokyo during the visit. Brief and contradictory reports make it impossible to get an idea of their real contents. However, the very fact of these negotiations once more proves that Chon Tu-hwan's visit became practically the beginning of the knocking together of an anti-communist military alliance.

'Virtual Failure' of Talks Noted

OW090547 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Vykhukhalev dispatch]

[Text] President Chon Tu-hwan, head of the ROK [Kankoku] dictatorial regime, concluded his visit to Japan on 8 September. Our Tokyo correspondent Vykhukhalev reports as follows:

Shortly before President Chon Tu-hwan's departure from Japan, a joint communique was released in Tokyo on the result of his visit to Japan. The considerably lengthy 12-paragraph document, was an elaborate attempt to cover up the virtual failure of the Japan-ROK talks. Such issues as the ROK's huge trade deficits with Japan, the transfer to Seoul of high technology by Japanese private industry, and the legal status of Koreans residing in Japan remain unresolved.

On the other hand, the joint communique flaunts President Chon's visit as a new chapter in the history of Japan-ROK relations, and the two leaders' reaffirmation of their resolve to carry on mutual activities for regional peace, stability, and prosperity. However, this immediately makes one wonder what it specifically means. An answer to that question can be found in the joint communique itself.

At one point, the joint statement refers to Japan's support for the ROK position that it will only accept bilateral talks with the DPRK and will make efforts to realize simultaneous UN membership for the two countries in the near future. Thus Japan indicated its support of the ROK position, completely disregarding the DPRK's view opposing the unacceptable ROK proposal. It will only help perpetuate the present division of the Korean peninsula and prolong regional tension.

This conclusion is substantiated by other factors as well. While the joint communique briefly touches on Japan's support of the ROK's defense efforts, the two leaders put much greater emphasis on the topic in their talks, which leads to the conclusion that the two countries' leaders share the view that peace in the region should be secured on the basis of a mutual military buildup. Incidently, Messrs Chon Tu-hwan and Nakasone could not but touch on the DPRK's so-called military provocations and the Soviet military buildup in the Far East. The so-called new era in Japan-ROK relations, ushered in with such assertions, will undoubtedly be characterized by the overall strengthening of the military alliance between the two countries. It will only serve U.S. interests and bring about a real threat to the peace and stability of the region.

Cooperation 'Threatens' Peace

LD072115 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1230 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] Moscow, 7 Sep (TASS) -- TASS political observer Askold Biryukov writes:

When the visit to Tokyo by Washington's puppet in Seoul, Chon Tu-hwan was mooted, U.S. Administration circles considered as important not the solution of some of the specific problems in the relations between South Korea and Japan, but the strengthening of these relations in the "security" sphere within the framework of the U.S. Administration's policy of "curbing communism" in the Asian-Pacific region. Discussion of South Korea's snowballing trade deficit with Japan, the legal status of Koreans in that country -- who are subjected to serve discrimination -- and other questions should, in Washington's opinion, only make a "symbolic contribution" to the development of relations between Japan and its former colony. The official regret expressed by the Japanese emperor over the "unhappy past" of relations between Japan and Korea, which it annexed, was to play the same role; and it was called upon to reduce the anti-Japanese sentiments existing in Korea without prejudice to the nationalistically-inclined Japanese.

The Japanese KYODO agency quotes unnamed U.S. State and Defense Department sources as saying that "what is important is the strengthening of cooperation on security matters between the United States and Japan and between the United States and South Korea." But these sources clearly do not tell the whole story. The bilateral military treaties with these countries are clearly no longer sufficient for Washington, which has made its stake on achieving military superiority in the Asian-Pacific region. It is with good reason that the London GUARDIAN notes that Chon Tu-hwan and Yasuhiro Nakasone have had the idea (of course, with prompting from Washington) of "arranging military cooperation which would complement the individual military agreements between each of these countries and the United States." The Paris LE MONDE adheres to the same point of view. The paper writes that "the Japanese Government is trying to portray things as if it did not consider it necessary to develop military cooperation with South Korea. However, the South Korean regime which appears today in the role of a sort of "bulwark of the struggle against communism," is trying to get Japan to increase its "aid" to Seoul. Tokyo is refraining from making any official statements on this subject but at the same time is continuing to give South Korea considerable "economic aid." For, as the head of the Japanese Government himself, admitted, "the economic prosperity" of Seoul helps strengthen its "defense capability."

Taking the angry reaction of the Korean and Japanese publics to the visit by the Seoul dictator into account, people in Tokyo are truly refraining from revealing the essence of the talks between Chon Tu-hwan and Yasuhiro Nakasone.

However, even what little is known is quite sufficient to allow one to say that the discussion of the situation in the Far East and of the military cooperation between Seoul and Tokyo was conducted within the framework of the strategic "triangle" that the United States is knocking together in that region in an attempt to transform it into the basis for creating a wider military-political bloc after the fashion of NATO in Europe. Nakasone highly assessed Seoul's military preparations. He described the situation on the Korean peninsula as "grim" and virtually promised Chon Tu-hwan a continuation of the essentially hostile attitude to the DPRK.

Revealing the essence of Seoul's and Tokyo's position, the premier stated that Japan and South Korea, co-participants in Washington's regional strategy, should "strengthen their relations of friendship and cooperation not only as neighbors but also, proceeding from a broader perspective, as members of the free world."

The fears felt by the public of Japan and South Korea and by the peoples of the Asian mainland were again confirmed. The discussions in Tokyo were not about relaxation of tension and the consoldiation of peace in the Far East but about the broadening of a type of cooperation that threatens peace in that region.

Military Ties To Strengthen

LD080134 Moscow World Service in English 1431 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] The South Korean president, Chon Tu-hwan, is in Japan for an official visit. Now comment by Askold Biryukov:

There has been much talk in Tokyo and Seoul about the importance of this visit. It has been called historic and even epoch making. Japan's foreign minister, Abe, has told the Japanese press that following this visit Japan and South Korea should enter in relations of mature partnership, but the people in the two countries don't seem to share their governments' enthusiasm about the event. In South Korea student protests against Chon's visit never stop for one day and on 4th September a group of students went on hunger strike. The KYODO TSUSHIN news service said those students believe that Chon's visit to Japan is part of the anti-popular policy of the Seoul leadership working to form a military alliance involving the United States, Japan, and South Korea. Demonstrators have thrown leaflets at the Japanese Embassy in Seoul recalling the annexation of South Korea by Japan in 1910.

In Japan, too, protests are growing against Chon Tu-hwan's visit. People are rejecting the government's efforts to establish cooperation with the anti-popular regime. A trade union leader, Takeshi Kurokawa, of Japan's biggest trade union federation, SOHYO, four and a half million strong, said he believes that Chon's visit will serve to strengthen the military alliance of Japan, South Korea, and the United States, which would result in a crisis on the Korean peninsula. And facts show that public concern over the visit to Japan of the South Korean puppet of the US is justified. During Prime Minister Nakasone's visit to Seoul last year, the two sides noted the importance of bilateral cooperation in security matters. And a meeting of Japanese and South Korean parliamentarians, held shortly before the visit of Chon Tu-hwan, showed that the talks in Tokyo would have to do with the promotion of military cooperation between Japan and South Korea.

Even now bilateral military contacts are growing in variety. The two countries are regularly exchanging military delegations and intelligence information, cooperating in military planning and introducing uniform secret codes for the American, Japanese, and South Korean air forces.

The United States and South Korea conducted an unprecedented Team Spirit 84 exercise timed to coincide with an American-Japanese exercise, which shows how more and more often the efforts of the Far Eastern allies of the United States are coordinated with Washington's aggressive preparations in the region. The junior members of the militarist triangle taking shape are coordinating their actions for the occasion of an emergency, which is another way of saying a military conflict. In the exercises staged on Washington's plans, they block straits, protect sea routes, and rebuff attacks from a mythical enemy. The exercises are conducted in the conditions of a possible use of American nuclear weapons. Remember that 700 units of those weapons have been brought to South Korea.

The three countries are promoting cooperation, intensively building up the military potential of the United States and its allies in the region, with the obvious purpose of upsetting the present strategic balance in the Far East and ensuring military supremacy and a position of strength for the United States. That's what Washington is primarily concerned about. That was the core of the statement about military cooperation between the United States, Japan, and South Korea made by the Pentagon's chief, Caspar Weinberger, during his visit to Tokyo last May.

All these facts make it plain that Chon Tu-hwan's visit to Japan is to accelerate the completion of the third side of the militaristic triangle involving the United States, Japan, and South Korea since Washington has long established strong military ties with both Tokyo and Seoul. And that triangle will be just another step to building a broader military structure in the Pacific, like NATO in the West.

MEETING, COMMENT COMEMORATE DPRK ANNIVERSARY

Talyzin, Others at Ceremony

PM071201 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Sep 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Fraternal People's Festival"]

[Text] Soviet people sincerely rejoice at the DPRK working people's successes in building a socialist society. This was emphasized at a ceremonial meeting of representatives of Moscow's working people devoted to the 36th anniversary of the proclamation of the DPRK. It was held in the House of the Unions 5 September.

The keynote speaker -- N.N. Tarasov, chairman of the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society Central Board and USSR minister -- pointed out that the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance has made a big contribution to the development of the two countries' peoples' traditionally close ties. The Soviet people's sincere feelings toward the Korean people were once again demonstrated during the month of solidarity with the Korean people's struggle for the withdrawal of foreign troops from South Korea and the country's unification on a peaceful, democratic basis, he emphasized.

Kwon Hui-kyong, DPRK ambassador to the USSR, said that the Soviet Army's victory over the Japanese militarists at the end of World War II helped realize the cherished aspirations of the fighters for Korea's freedom and independence. We will never forget the sacrifices the Soviet people made in the name of our country's liberation, the ambassador declared. He emphasized that the two countries' friendship and cooperation are developing on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. The Korean-Soviet summit meetings and talks recently held in Moscow gave a new boost to their deepening.

Participating in the meeting were B.A. Ashimov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N.V. Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; leaders of a number of ministries and departments; military chiefs; representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations; and other officials.

Korolev on DPRK Founding

SK101005 Moscow International Service in Korean 1330 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Text] The date 9 September marks the 36th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK. In connection with this, station commentator Vladimir Korolev wrote:

On this day in 1948 a light red flag fluttered in the sky over Pyongyang, Korea, to declare the founding of the DPRK to the world. Since then a great change has come about in North Korea. Socialist Korea has become one of the most developed countries in Asia, one with modern industry and agriculture, and a high cultural level.

North Korea produces more industrial goods in one day today than it produced in 1 year before its liberation from Japanese colonial rule.

All this is positive proof of the superiority of socialism as the most advanced system, and a result of the close cooperation between the DPRK and the other socialist countries.

With the economic and technological assistance of the Soviet Union alone, approximately 60 plants of the people's economy have been constructed.

The workers of the DPRK are engaged in peaceful and creative endeavors under the complicated conditions of a divided Korea.

It has been convincingly proven that the stationing of the U.S. troops in the Korean peninsula -- which, in fact, means their forcible occupation of the southern half of Korea -- was and is the main obstacle blocking the peaceful reunification of Korea.

What is the forcible occupation by the U.S. troops? It means more than 40,000 U.S. troops, tens of military bases, and nearly 1,000 nuclear warheads and missile launchers deployed there.

The U.S. Defense Department in the Pentagon is also planning to deploy neutron weapons in South Korea for use against Asian people. In short, Washington has everything necessary to start a nuclear war in South Korea, any time it chooses to subjugate the DPRK and other countries in the region to its will.

For this reason, it is not coincidental that U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger called South Korea a very significant U.S. ally.

The DPRK Government has put forth the constructive proposal of reunifying Korea peacefully and on a democratic basis. The Soviet Union acknowledges this policy to be of great significance and fully supports it. This was reaffirmed when DPRK leader Comrade Kim Il-song visited Moscow some time ago.

The aspirations of the Korean people to live in a reunified and independent democratic country and the Korean people's just struggle to realize such an objective are receiving support from the other countries of the socialist cooperative body as well.

Under conditions in which tension is being aggravated in the world, including the Far East, because of the U.S. ruling circles, the unified action of the socialist countries is especially important and urgent.

PRAVDA CITES DRA'S KARMAL ON IRAN, PAKISTAN

PM071025 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Sep 84 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Afghanistan's Determination"]

[Text] Kabul, 5 Sep -- Speaking on national radio and television to mark a Muslim holiday, B. Karmel, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, said that representatives of the broadest strata of the Republic's population express unswerving determination to defend the gains of the April national-democratic revolution. We Afghans are not alone. With us is our great friend the Soviet Union, and our revolutionary and peace-loving foreign policy is supported by working people and oppressed peoples throughout the world.

The Afghan leader noted the DRA's desire to establish goodneighborly relations with Pakistan and Iran, and expressed confidence that the peoples of the three neighboring countries will resolve all their problems sooner or later. As yet, however, the ruling regimes in Pakistan and Iran are acting against their countries' national interests and to the detriment of the cause of peace and security in the region by refusing to sit at the negotiating table with the DRA and resolve problems in accordance with the principles of the United Nations and goodneighborliness.

DRA ARMY ROUTS CIA AIDED BANDS 'FROM ABROAD'

LD091216 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 9 Sep 84

[Text] In the past few days Afghan Army units have routed several armed bands of counterrevolutionaries sent to the country from abroad. Radio Kabul has reported that over 100 bandits were killed in operations to liquidate terrorists in Herat, Nangarhar, and Balkh Provinces. Army units confiscated big quantities of arms and ammunition which counterrevolutionaries are getting from American special services. Since December 1979, the American CIA has spent $325 million on aid to the bands.

REBEL ACTIVITY IN DRA'S KONDUZ VALLEY DESCRIBED

PM071337 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 19 August 1984 in its First Edition carries on page 4 a 1,500-word Kabul report by PRAVDA own correspondent V. Baykov entitled "We will Stand Our Ground and Win Through" and published under the rubric "An Ordinary Day in the Afghan Revolution." The report describes agricultural activity in the Konduz Valley and discusses current problems. It ends with the following passage:

"Still very much on the agenda are the struggle against counterrevolutionary gangs and the safeguarding of security and the normal operation of national economic facilities in the province. The counterrevolutionary ringleaders are forever sending in bandit groupings to terrorize the populace and hinder agricultural work. The bands leave a trail of blood behind when they come into the valley from the mountains of Badakhshan, Takhar, and Baghlan.

"Some months ago the 'WATAN' boarding school for children whose parents have been killed by counterrevolutionaries was opened in the province on the initiative of the PDPA city committee. I visited the school.

"'The boy's name is (Fraydun), 'the school's director, (Shafika Askar Zade) said, cradling the tiny 2- or 3-month-old bundle in his arms. 'He was orphaned the day the U.S. President made a cynical speech declaring his support for the dushmans. The bandits organized their own celebration of the President's 'Afghanistan Day.' They mortared civilians' homes on the outskirts of Konduz. One of the mortars killed (Fraydun's) parents.'

"Local security personnel displayed an entire roomful of 'exhibits' demonstrating who is really behind the bloody crimes. Guns, explosives, and mortars captured from the dushmans, all made in the United States, Britain, or China.

"'Although there has been an overall decline in bandit activity in the province, the situation has recently deteriorated somewhat,' secuirity chief (Khabib Miyakhel) said. 'This is due to the fact that Afghan Army subunits routed a large dushman nest in May in the Panjsher mountain valley. The surviving bandits filtered into neighboring provinces, including ours, robbing the populace and bombarding villages... But, we have the people's backing. That's the main thing. In the reactionary camp more and more people are realizing that they are the victims of hostile propaganda and are giving themselves up. In the neighboring Andarab Valley the grouping under (Dzhum Khan), numbering over 600 people, voluntarily surrendered to the authorities. They have refused to serve Gulbuddin and his U.S. patrons and are asking for permission to create a regiment to protect the valley against dushman forays... We view the future with confidence. We are not afraid of difficulties, we will stand our ground and win in the end.'"

AFGHAN UNIONISTS ON DUSHMANS REVOLUTION

LD072150 Moscow TASS in English 2035 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] Moscow September 7 TASS -- The forces of imperialism and reaction are seeking to intimidate the Afghan people and impede their efforts to build a new life. They resort to most ruthless, inhuman methods, a TASS correspondent was told today by Taj Muhammad, a trade unionist from Afghanistan. he came to Moscow heading a trade union delegation at the invitation of the USSR Central Trade Union Council.

"On August 31, when we were waiting for a plane at Kabul Airport," Taj Muhammad said, "bandits set off a bomb there. This happened on the following day after a national holiday. There were many passengers in the airport at that time. The explosion was so powerful that dozens of Afghan civilians, including women and children, were killed or gravely injured. Our delegation comprised 25 people, six of us were so seriously wounded that they had to give up the trip."

Taj Muhammad walks with a slight limp. A bomb fragment injured his leg during the explosion. Another member of the delegation, Muhammad Asef, now in Moscow, had also been wounded.

The blast at Kabul Airport, Taj Muhammad said, is part of large-scale anti-Afghan actions. Recently, bandits set off bombs in a cinema house, mosque, and bus. They set fire to schools, shot at factories. There were hundreds of instances when bandits brutally maltreated children in front of their parents, tortured and murdered pregnant women.

"We clearly realize who masterminded the blast at Kabul Airport and other atrocities committed by counterrevolutionaries," delegation member Sardar Muhammad joins in. "The victory of the April Revolution in Afghanistan is like a bone in the throat of the ruling circles of Pakistan, the United States, and some other countries. When our people started governing their own country and developing its economy, the imperialists lost the profits they had pumped from Afghanistan."

"The victory of the revolution is irreversible," Sardar Muhammad stressed. "The course of history can be halted for some time, but it is impossible to reverse it. We are convinced of success, because we are backed by our tested, faithful friend the Soviet Union, by other socialist countries which, guided by the principles of internationalism, are helping all peoples who are building a new, better life."

CHINESE-PAKISTANI-INDIAN BORDER DISPUTES VIEWED

LD092215 Moscow World Service in English 1431 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Text] Next we have a commentary by Viktor Sivakov and this is what he writes:

The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA has reported that the Chinese media have again described the Pakistani-occupied part of the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir as Pakistani territory. The version was suggested by the Chinese weekly LIAOWANG, in an article about the Karakoram Highway. The highway crosses the Pakistani-occupied part of Jammu and Kashmir. In connection with the latest Chinese press publications, it is appropriate to recall some facts. The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA stresses that the border agreement between China and Pakistan of 1963 affected the status of Jammu and Kashmir, first of all because there is no border between China and Pakistan at all. The arbitrary interpretation of the border issue without due account given to the interests of India had most dire consequences. The Karakoram Highway and the adjacent strategic roads which have been or are being constructed with Chinese assistance have become a composite part of Pakistan's military preparations in this sensitive region. Chinese weaponry and military hardware pass freely into Pakistan along the Karakoram Highway. It is not surprising therefore that Islamabad and Beijing will want to continue deriving profit from the strategic position of the occupied parts of Jammu and Kashmir.

Chinese press publications are openly provocative also because they actually support some unilateral steps of Islamabad on the issue of Kashmir. Back in 1982, Islamabad announced the integration with Pakistan of Gilgit, Skardu, and Hunza Districts in the part of Jammu and Kashmir occupied by Pakistan. By calling Pakistani-occupied Indian lands Pakistani territory Beijing, as the newspaper STATESMAN says, contradicts itself because just recently it assured India that it was holding a neutral stand. We must remind you that under the 1972 Simla Agreement India and Pakistan are supposed to settle all questions only on a bilateral basis. The question arises why have the Chinese media started interpreting issues beyond the competence of Chinese authorities now. Apparently these provocative publications are directed not only at worsening the relations between the two neighboring countries. We must not overlook the fact that another round of the Indochinese talks will be held in the near future. Settlement of border issues will be the main item under discussion. Delhi feels that the core of the issue is the return of Chinese occupied lands to India. The talks held between India and China so far have not produced positive results because of Beijing's reluctance to satisfy the just demands of the other side. Probably Chinese publications about Kashmir are a hint to the preservation of China's approach to the settlement of border issues with India.

REPORTAGE ON GORBACHEV, DELEGATION IN BULGARIA

Greeted on Arrival

LD071416 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] On 7 September a Soviet party and government delegation left Moscow for Sofia for the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria. The delegation is headed by Comrade Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. It included Comrade Ryzhkov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Lyashko, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Chicherov, a team-leader of assembly fitters at the Leningrad Metallicheskiy Zavod Turbine-Making Production Association and twice Hero of Socialist Labor; and also Grekov, USSR ambassador to Bulgaria.

At Vnukovo Airport, the delegation was seen off by Comrade Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Comrade Ligachev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; as well as other responsible officials of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Foreign Ministry.

At Sofia airport, the delegation was met by Comrade Doynov, BCP Central Committee member, secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee; Comrade Aleksandrov, member of the BCP Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Council of Ministers; Comrade Lukanov, candidate-member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Council of Ministers; Comrades Zarev, Stanishev and Khristov, secretaries of the BCP Central Committee; Comrade Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR, and other officials.

Wreath Laid in Sofia

LD072137 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1700 GMT on 7 September in its Vremya newscast broadcasts a 2-minute video report presented by Georgiy Zubkov from Sofia on the links between the Soviet and Bulgarian peoples. Over pictures showing CPSU Politburo member Mikhail Gorbachev, flanked by Chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers Aleksandr Lyashko and Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Nikolay Ryzhkov, walking with other unidentified officials in a wreath-laying ceremony, Zubkov says: "The Soviet delegation headed by Comrade Gorbachev laid a wreath at the monument to the Soviet Army." Over video shots of city scenes and the monument to the Soviet Army, Zubkov comments on the strides by Bulgaria over the past 40 years.

The camera then shows Gorbachev, Lyashko, and Ryzhkov bearing bouquets of flowers and walking in a city square. Zubkov continues: "The Soviet party and government delegation today came to Lenin Square, where there stands a monument to the leader of the world proletariat."

Zhivkov Receives Gorbachev

LD072016 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Sep 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A meeting took place between Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the People's Republic of Bulgaria State Council, and Comrade Gorbachev. Comrade Gorbachev conveyed to Todor Zhivkov, the BCP Central Committee and all the Communists and working people of the country, fraternal congratulations on the 40th anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria and wishes of success to the Bulgarian people in their peaceful creative labor.

On behalf of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko and the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, he cordially congratulated Todor Zhivkov on his birthday. Todor Zhivkov expressed cordial gratitude for the congratulations. He highly evaluated the attention paid to the national holiday of the Bulgarian people in the Soviet Union, and for his part, conveyed friendly greetings and good wishes to Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, the CPSU Central Committee, and all Soviet people.

Todor Zhivkov and Comrade Gorbachev exchanged information on the work of the BCP and the CPSU to solve tasks of the building and perfection of a developed socialist society, and examined certain questions of the further development of Soviet-Bulgarian relations in the spirit of the decisions by the CEMA economic summit conference and accords reached at the meeting between Comrades Chernenko and Zhivkov this May in Moscow.

During their exchange of opinions on international problems, note was made of the exacerbation of the world situation and the increase in the danger of war as a result of the militarist course of the United States and its NATO allies. It was stressed that under these conditions, the unity and cohesion of the fraternal socialist countries assume particular importance for reliably protecting the gains of our peoples and frustrating the attempts by the imperialists to weaken and underline the socialist community.

The conversation took place in an atmosphere of great cordiality and friendship.

On the same day, a meeting took place between the Soviet party and government delegation, Todor Zhivkov, members and candidate members of the Politburo and secretaries of the BCP Central Committee.

Today, the members of the Soviet delegation were presented with the anniversary medals "40 Years of Socialist Bulgaria." This was to mark their great contribution to socialist construction in the People's Republic of Bulgaria and to the strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the Bulgarian and Soviet peoples. On behalf of the delegation, Comrade Gorbachev expressed gratitude to the BCP Central Committee, the People's Republic of Bulgaria State Council and Government for the awards.

Gorbachev Presents Awards

LD081336 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Text] Gorbachev, the head of the Soviet party and government delegation and member of the Politburo and Secretariatof the CPSU Central Committee, today presented the All-Peoples' Committee of Bulgarian-Soviet Friendship the Order of the Labor Red Banner.

The committee has been conferred this award for its great contribution in strengthening and developing friendship and cooperation between the Bulgarian and Soviet peoples. Soviet awards were also conferred on a group of veterans of the movement for Bulgarian-Soviet friendship.

Presenting the awards, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said: The friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Bulgaria has been tried by time and tempered in the common joint struggle. We will cherish and augment it. The close, constantly expanding cooperation of the CPSU and the BCP is a powerful, moving force of this friendship. We see in the inviolable union of our parties a guarantee of the fortress of Bulgarian-Soviet relations both today and for many, many years to come, stressed Comrade Gorbachev.

USSR Sends Congratulations

LD081458 Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Text] Moscow September 8 TASS -- "The experience of the past decades convincingly confirms the immense role of the unity of actions of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) and the Bulgarian Communist Party (BCP) in the establishment and development of versatile fraternal relations between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The Communist Party of the Soviet Union and all Soviet people, true to the principles of socialist internationalism, will continue to keep in every way and to increase this common valuable asset of ours".

This is emphasized in a congratulatory telegram which the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government have sent to Bulgarian leaders Todor Zhivkov and Grisha Filipov on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria.

The telegram points out that "the socialist revolution in Bulgaria crowned the class battles fought by the country's working people under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party. The day of freedom has gone down in the history of Bulgaria as the first day of its genuine national and social rebirth, as the beginning of the building of a new social system".

"The Soviet Union and Bulgaria", the telgram says, "together with the other fraternal countries wage an active struggle for the improvement of the international situation which has become aggravated through the fault of the United States and NATO, and for the implementation of the extensive program of constructive initiatives which have been put forward by the member-states of the Warsaw Treaty Organization and which are aimed at lessening the war threat and at strengthening peace and international security. Further strengthening of the cohesion and unity of the socialist community and the growth of its economic and defence are of major importance for the attainment of these goals. The recent economic summit conference of the CMEA member states opened up new horizons of the process of socialist economic integration".

Ceremony Held in Sofia

LD082137 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 8 Sep 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Today in Sofia there took place a solemn session of the CP Central Committee, the National Assembly, the State Council, the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Council of the Bulgarian Popular Agrarian Alliance, the National Council of the Patriotic Front, as well as other public organizations of the country, dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria.

Members of the BCP Central Committee, deputies of the National Assembly, veterans of the workers' movement, labor frontrankers, scientific and cultural figures, and foreign guests gathered in the hall of the people's palace of culture.

Prolonged applause by the participants in the session greeted Todor Zhivkov, the general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, other party and government leaders, the Soviet party and government delegation led by Comrade Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and Secretariat of the CPSU Central Committee, and the delegations from the other fraternal socialist countries.

Zhivkov Address Cited

LD081703 Moscow TASS in English 1627 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Text] Sofia September 8 TASS -- The imperialists and, first of all, U.S. ones, having launched a frenzied arms race, try to achieve military and strategic superiority over the countries of real socialism, flagrantly interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign states and peoples, and start practical actions to militarize outer space. Anticommunism pervades all the spheres of U.S. politics -- from diplomacy to sports. This has been stated by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party (BCP), president of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. He delivered a report in Sofia today at a celebration meeting marking the 40th anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria.

The strengthening of the socialist system and the attainment of the rough military and strategic balance of the two systems is an immense achievement, the speaker emphasized. An invaluable credit in this belongs to the USSR, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and the Soviet people. The military balance is a historic fact, and we shall never allow it to be upset.

We have repeatedly and in all responsibility stated that the Warsaw Treaty member states do not seek military superiority, Todor Zhivkov said. Moreover, we are ready to hold talks on lowering the level of armaments and on gradually moving on to complete disarmament. We are ready to begin the elaboration and ratification of such a code of relations between East and West, between socialist and capitalist states, which will remove forever the danger of a world military conflict.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria, true to its socialist ideals and to its peaceful Leninist foreign policy, together with all fraternal countries is in the vanguard of the struggle for peace and cooperation, the Bulgarian leader stressed. Bulgaria will continue to devote paramount attention to the strengthening of peace and security in the Balkans. Making the Balkan peninsula a zone free from nuclear weapons, as we have already emphasized more than once, would be an exceptionally important step in that direction.

Todor Zhivkov pointed out: Everything that has been achieved over the four decades that have passed since the triumph of the socialist revolution is a vivid confirmation of the correctness of the Marxist-Leninist teaching as well as of the practical activities of the BCP and the socialist state. Looking into the future, the speaker said, we visualise a Bulgaria of mature socialism and visualise its further prosperity in the conditions of lasting peace throughout the world, in fraternal unity with the other socialist countries.

Our achievements are inseparable from the general strengthening and headway of the world socialist system -- the leading revolutionary force of our time. After the CMEA member-states' recent economic summit conference in Moscow we now have a new long-term action strategy which meets both the interests of each individual country and the interests of socialism as a whole. Our achievements are closely connected with the socialist community's resources to uphold what has been gained and to guarantee the freedom, peace and security of our countries and peoples, and with the indestructible might of the Warsaw Treaty member states, the Bulgarian leader emphasized.

PRAVDA on Gorbachev Speech

PM091937 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Sep 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS special correspondent: "Ceremonial Session in Sofia:" "Speech of Comrade M.S. Gorbachev"]

[Text] With profound gratitude, the CPSU Central Committee accepted the invitation to send a party and government delegation to take part in the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria. On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers, on behalf of all Soviet people, we convey to you our warm greetings and very best wishes in connection with this glorious jubilee. When bidding our delegation farewell, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, asked us to convey cordial congratulations to Bulgarian Communists, all Bulgarian people, thanks to whose efforts, talent, and inspiration socialist Bulgaria flourishes with each year.

We all heard with great interest the report by Comrade Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. One can see with one's own eyes how much is contained in the four socialist decades of Bulgaria, how profound, lasting and worldwide historical significance are consequences of the victory over Hitlerite Germany in World War II.

At that time, in the September days of 1944, a new, socialist chapter opened in relations between our countries. This chapter absorbed not only all that is valuable, which the age-old friendship of our fraternal peoples is so rich in. New features emerged: inviolable class solidarity, most profound interest in each other's successes, mutual assistance, and complete trust. The great principle of proletarian socialist internationalism became a guide to action for the CPSU and BCP, for the peoples of the Soviet Union and Bulgaria, and as a result of all this, the pace of history was accelerated.

In the course of the four decades, the formerly agrarian Bulgaria has created a modern industrial base. Branches of the economy that determine scientific and technical progress are developing rapidly. It is noteworthy, comrades, that your republic has become an acknowledged exporter of various kinds of industrial output. We can see that the Bulgarian working class, Bulgarian scientific and engineering thought is now capable of a great deal, and there is no doubt that the decisions adopted by the BCP national party conference on issues of quality will give a fresh stimulus to the progress of your industry.

In the course of the four decades, the country's agriculture has also been transformed. Socialist cooperation, use of highly efficient machinery and up-to-date farming techniques, creation of strong agro-industrial complexes, skillful combining of social and individual interests -- all this has radically changed the appearance of the Bulgarian countryside and ensured a stable growth of agriculture and stockbreeding. We know how very concerned you are, comrades, to continue to uphold in every possible way the glory of the generous Bulgarian fields, orchards, vineyards and livestock farms.

In the course of the past four decades, Bulgarian culture has vividly flourished. The people's standard of living has increased a great deal. There is no need to turn to statistics in order to feel and understand all this. It is sufficient to take a look at Bulgarian citizens, at the beautiful city of Sofia, at the well-appointed towns and villages, to appraise the immense transformations that have taken place in the life of the people, which are characterized by the social confidence, physical and moral health of the nation.

The remarkable accomplishments of your country in the years of socialism are inseparable from the purposeful, creative work of the party of Blagoyev and Dimitrov, the BCP Central Committee which for nearly 30 years now has been headed by the remarkable son of Bulgaria, a prominent member of the world communist and workers' movement, a great friend of the Soviet Union, Comrade Todor Zhivkov.

The BCP became the leading force in society not by decree. It won this position and is constantly strengthening it through selflessly serving the interests of the people. There is perhaps no other political institution in socialist society that has been subjected to such vicious attacks from our class enemies as the Communist Party and its leading role. But there is also no other organization or other political force which determines to such a large degree the success of the forward movement along the path of socialism.

A sober assessment of the real situation, ability to sense in good time and express in policy the true interests and aspirations of the people, maintaining closest links with the broad masses of the working people, strictly observing the Leninist norms of party and state life, this is the meaning of strengthening the party's leading role in society. Experience shows how dearly forgetting this truth may sometimes cost.

There was talk at this high forum about the tasks the BCP is setting for itself, tasks that are truly inspiring and significant. We are certain that everything planned by the Communists will be put into practice. A guarantee for this is the entire previous experience of Bulgaria's socialist development, and the undivided support for the policy of the BCP by the working class, the peasantry and the intelligentsia. A guarantee for this is the close cooperation of the BCP with the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union headed by its secretary, Comrade Tanchev. A guarantee for this is the consistent internationalist policy of the BCP that has bestowed People's Bulgaria with true and reliable friends.

Comrade Zhivkov, in his report, said warm and moving words about out party and country, about the Soviet people. These words will be received with gratitude by every Soviet person. I would like to assure you that to your friendship we have always responded, and will respond, with a friendship that is just as sincere.

Soviet-Bulgarian fraternity is unshakable.

Comrades! Together with you over these months, the other socialist states have marked, or are marking their jubilee days. In some fraternal countries this will be done next year. In the history of each one of them, the past decades have been years of gigantic deeds and intensive work towards creating the new communist society [formatsiya]. It is understandable that in such a matter of unprecedented novelty, difficulties, and in some cases, errors, were inevitable. But the main result is obvious. Through the heroic efforts of the masses and under the leadership of the Communist Parties in the fraternal countries, a society embodying the centuries-long dreams of the working people was created and consolidated, and it is moving confidently forward. The path covered by the community unrefutably proves the great dynamism of the socialist order and the truly limitless possibilities of its economic and political system. Socialism provided answers to the fundamental questions history brought before mankind, and in practice provided all working people with the material, social and spiritual riches that ensure a full and dignified existence for man. The creation of mighty productive forces, the increasingly intensive development of the national economy, and the stable growth rates of labor productivity, are matters of legitimate pride for the peoples of socialist countries. The relative share of the socialist countries in the world economy is steadily growing.

It is a fact, comrades, that in just the last 15 years or so, the CEMA member-states have essentially doubled the volume of industrial production while in the same period capitalism increased it by just over one-third.

Is this not persuasive evidence of the huge possibilities of an economic system based on public owership of the means of production and planned management of the economy?

The socialist community, with its powerful economic and scientific-technological potential and qualified cadres, has available everything necessary for the successful solution of the most complex and large-scale tasks of social development. The world of socialism today personifies the highest level of humanity's social progress. It was able to solve the problems capitalism could not and will not be able to solve. The socialist system gained for working people delivery from exploitation and all forms of social and national oppression, ensured in practice the implementation of the inalienable rights and freedoms of the individual including such very important values as the right to work. In various spheres of social life and in relations between people, the principles of social justice and equality, collectivisim and comradely mutual assistance, and of friendship among all nations and ethnic groups is becoming increasingly firmly established.

Socialism has filled the great concepts of freedom with real content. Socialist democracy is genuine democracy, not formal democracy, and every person has extensive opportunities for taking part in managing the affairs of the state and society at all levels. The achievements of the socialist countries in spiritual development and the ideological-moral uplifting of the people are evident to the entire world. The socialist system gives every person, regardless of his social position and nationality, access to all sources of knowledge and has created a rich and genuinely humanistic culture which has imbibed the best and most progressive elements of world culture. It is successfully solving the task of forming the new person distinguished by ideological conviction, high labor and public activity, patriotism and internationalism. It was socialism that for the first time in history created a community of fraternal peoples in practice.

The alliance of the socialist community countries is an alliance of a special type. It consitutues a new, socialist form of international relations among states which are sovereign, equal, cohesive by virtue of shared fundamental interests and aims and a single Marxist-Leninist ideology, and which are cemented by bonds of comradely solidarity and mutual aid. The mutually enriching links between the fraternal countries permeate all spheres of public life and are implemented at both party and state level and at the level of enterprises and labor collectives.

All this, comrades, is the indisputable reality of socialism and is the result of the selfless fight of millions and millions of people.

Although our enemies even now have not ceased attempts to diminish and even to erase the historic achievements of the new system, they have not succeeded in the past and they will not succeed in the future.

The socialist community has today become a very influential force of modern times without which no single issue in world politics can be solved. This is the main obstacle in the path of imperialist reaction and the most reliable support of the forces of freedom, peace and progress on earth.

Of course, we are far from painting an idyllic picture of socialism. Every fresh patch in its development advances its tasks and problems and engenders its contradictions. There are still phenomena that do not accord with the principles of our system existing in the lives of the socialist countries, and against these we are fighting persistently.

But the leading trend in development is evident. The fraternal countries are assuredly advancing to ever higher stages in their economic and social maturity. International experience has substantially enriched our ideas of the world of socialism, of its common laws [zakonomernost], and the special features of the methods and forms in socialist construction, answering the conditions and traditions of the individual countries. The main conclusion here is that fidelity on the part of the Communist Parties to Marxist-Leninist teaching and the ability to put it into practice are the decisive guarantees of successful development along the path of socialism. The CPSU, along with the other fraternal parties, will continue to take a principled stance on issues concerning the essence of Marxism-Leninism and will decisively defend the purity and revolutionary spirit of Lenin's teaching.

Of course, we do not regard revolutionary theory as something frozen nor do we seek in it universal recipes suitable for all cases in life. Reality enriches the theory with new experience, and experience creatively interpreted in light of Marxist-Leninist science, becomes a powerful weapon in the hands of Communists. Fresh confirmation of this was the economic summit of the CEMA member-countries. On the basis of collective analysis, it defined the strategy of the parties at the present stage, the specific ways and means of further deepening socialist economic integration, and the priority directions of the fraternal states' economic cooperation. The implementation of the conference's decision will undoubtedly promote the effective development of the national economies and an increase in the people's standard of living as well as increase the might of the socialist world.

As for Soviet people, we do not separate the work within the country from our internationalist tasks, and we strive to the maximum possible degree to take into account the interests of our allies. What is being done in the Soviet Union for the development of the scientific-technical revolution, fulfillment of the Energy and Food Programs, and the exploitation of natural wealth resources, all of this simultaneously is our contribution to the increase of the economic potential of the whole community.

You are aware, comrades, of the achievements of the Soviet people in the fulfillment of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the subsequent plenums of our party's Central Committee. These are weighty achievements. To put it briefly, in the final years of the 11th 5-Year Plan, our progress is accelerating in both the economic and the social fields. There has been improvement in both the quantitative and, more importantly, qualitative indices in the national economy. Major social programs, including the housing programs, are being successfully fulfilled, and the people's standard of living is improving. These successes did not come of their own accord. They are the result of an intensification of the political, organisational, and ideological activity of the party, stepped-up work of the soviets, trade unions, and Komsomol, and the strengthening of discipline and order at all levels, from the labor collective to the ministry.

At the same time, any feeling of self-satisfaction is alien to us. To reach each new frontier in social development requires fresh approaches, a bold creative search, freshness of thought, and vigorous struggle against everything hidebound [kosnyy] and obsolete. All these are indispensable conditions for the fruitful work to further improve developed socialism that now comprises the main content of the activity of our party and people. It is a matter, as Comrade (K.U.) Chernenko has pointed out, of bringing together all spheres of our life in keeping with the highest and most exacting ideas concerning socialism. It is precisely from this viewpoint that work is being conducted on drafting a new edition of the CPSU Program and possible amendments to the party's charter. This, indeed, is what determines our tasks in preparation for our next, 27th party congress and, in particular, in working out the main directions of economic and social development for the 12th 5-Year Plan and beyond. It is toward the achievement of these aims that the daily practical work of the people and party is directed.

Concentrating their efforts on tackling creative tasks, the CPSU and the Soviet state are giving unremitting attention to the strengthening of the defense potential of the country. This diverts no small part of our resources. But the countries of the socialist community cannot act in any other way. We are all obliged to do this in order to reliably guard the socialist gains of our peoples lest anyone try to speak to the socialist world in the language of force.

The Soviet Armed Forces, the Bulgarian People's Army, and the armies of the other states of the Warsaw Pact, the 30th anniversary of which falls next year, stand guard shoulder to shoulder over the peaceful creative labor of the peoples of the fraternal socialist countries. Confronted with the united, cohesive, and internationalist front of the socialist community countries, the imperialist forces are trying in various roundabout ways to weaken it. To this end, the notorious policy of differentiation was set in motion. The imperialists brazenly assert their right to punish some and reward other socialist countries. The crusade against communism and the psychological war that have been proclaimed by the U.S. Administration are indeed aimed at undermining socialism. Under these conditions, the importance of that tested weapon of Communists, proletarian socialist internationalism and deep recognition of the unity of the national and internationalist interests of every fraternal country, is greater than ever before. No one can remain aloof in the struggle that imperialism is imposing upon our community. The strengthening of the socialist community is a common cause that requires joint and active efforts.

The grim reality of the matter is that the world is at a fever pitch. The threat of war is not subsiding. The practical moves by imperialist reaction, and in the first place, by those who determine the foreign policy course of the United States, are clearly orientated towards further dangerously whipping up international tension. Obsessed with the use of brute force, Washington believes that it is permissible to dictate its will to everyone, everywhere and in everything, and that this goes even as far as overthrowing legitimate governments, establishing a policy of state terrorism, and waging undeclared wars. The United States, having embarked upon the deployment of nuclear missiles in a number of Western European countries, having broken off the talks in Geneva on medium-range nuclear weapons and strategic arms, and having essentially rejected constructive dialogue on preventing the militarization of space, is now giving assurances that it is in favor of curtailing the arms race and is allegedly willing to seek appropriate accords with the Soviet Union. Many people in the West echo the United States, asserting that virtually the only obstacle to dialogue is the hard line and obstinacy of the Soviet Union.

What is the purpose of this? Some do this in order to continue to build up the arms race under a veil of pseudo-peaceloving rhetoric. Others do it in order to in some way justify their complicity with militant reaction. As far as our country is concerned, the position of the Soviet Union on the crucial issues of the present-day international situation has been once again set out clearly and convincingly in the replies of Comrade Chernenko to questions by the newspaper PRAVDA.

We reject and will continue to resolutely reject a dialogue from a position of strength which is being imposed upon us, and attempts at an imperialist dictate. We do not intend to engage in deceiving people or to hold talks for the sake of talks. The USSR is willing to have a dialogue, but it must be an honest and serious dialogue aimed at reaching accords that take the interests and security of all countries and peoples into consideration.

The socialist countries have sufficient goodwill and determination to hold a constructive dialogue on all major international issues, including the single greatest problem of our day, that of ending the arms race, primarily the nuclear arms race. And if the West shows understanding of the fact that in our time one can only engage in dialogue with the socialist world upon an equal basis, then of course, a turn for the better in the development of international relations will take place.

The world's slipping toward a nuclear catastrophe can be halted. It is now very important to offer the most determined resistance to the warmongers, through the joint efforts of the socialist countries, of the international communist workers' movement, and of the anti-imperialist and antiwar forces of all continents. The world does not want to live according to the standards imposed upon it by U.S. imperialism, nor will it do so. What is needed is a transition to the policy of realism and common sense, to businesslike cooperation in resolving the tasks facing mankind.

The Soviet Union advocates such a prospect, and we highly esteem the active and wide-ranging contribution of people's Bulgaria in conducting the joint peace-loving policy of the countries of the socialist community. We have esteem for the persistent efforts of our Bulgarian friends in developing good-neighborly ties between all the Balkan countries and in turning the Balkan peninsula into a zone of peace, free from nuclear weapons.

In its turn, the Soviet Union also sees real possibilities for further improvement in its relations with the countries of that region. Our wide-ranging ties with the socialist states located here are growing stronger and deeper. I would also like to say that our country favors normalization of relations with the People's Socialist Republic of Albania. With good will on both sides, this issue can be resolved, in the interests of the peoples of both states and the cause of peace and socialism.

Comrades, the Soviet Union and people's Bulgaria are linked by unity of goals. We are united by a pure and bright friendship. This was given weighty and authoritative confirmation in the Moscow meeting between Comrades Chernenko and Zhivkov in May this year. It has already been mentioned here how much socialism has brought to the working people of Bulgaria. Now, as we approach the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite Germany and Japanese militarism, one cannot but recall that a fierce war against fascism lay at the beginning of this path. All the more so in that at the present time revanchism is once again raising its head, urged on by the aggressive policy of the United States and NATO.

Permit me on behalf of our party and the peoples of the Soviet Union to thank you, Comrade Zhivkov, for the warm words in memory of those who gave their lives for our common freedom and happiness. The present and future generations throughout the world have no right to forget the lessons of the war, and the importance for the destiny of world civilization of the victory over fascism, to the attainment of which a decisive contribution was made by the Soviet Union and its Armed Forces, and for which the sons and daughters of Bulgaria struggled selflessly.

We shall do everything to strengthen the unity, increase the might and international influence of the socialist community, and to ensure the revolutionary continuity of generations and assert an awareness of the common nature of the historical destiny of our people. The development of the world revolutionary process and the destiny of peace and mankind will depend to a decisive degree on the firmness of this community, on the successes of the creative activity of each country, and on the purposefulness and coordinated nature of their actions.

Allow me once again to contratulate you on the holiday and wish you fresh and splendid achievements in the construction of the developed socialist society on Bulgarian soil, happiness, and prosperity to all of you, dear Bulgarian friends! Long live socialist Bulgaria! Long live the Bulgarian people and its tried and tested leader, the party of Bulgarian Communists! Long live eternally inviolable Soviet-Bulgarian friendship! Long live the combat alliance of the countries of the socialist community! Long live peace and communism!

M.S. Gorbachev, head of the Soviet delegation, handed over to the BCP Central Committee a picture entitled "The Red Square" by the well known Soviet artist Ye. Sokolov.

Bulgarian Ambassador Speaks

LD092005 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 9 Sep 84

[From the Vremya newscast; address by Dimitur Zhulev, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in the USSR]

[Text] Dear Soviet friends. For 40 years now our country has been proceeding confidently along the path of socialist ascent. This became possible as a result of many years of revolutionary struggle by the working class and of all the oppressed masses which, under the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party, rose to national popular revolt, and with the decisive help of the liberating Soviet Army, drove the Hitlerite oppressors out and routed Bulgarian monarcho-fascism and capitalism.

Over the last 40 years, under the leadership of the Communist Party and with the invaluable help and cooperation of the Soviet Union, the labor-loving Bulgarian people have constructed a flourishing socialist Bulgaria. The decisions of the 12th congress and of the party national conference are being successfully fulfilled. The pledge and guarantee for our successes is eternal Bulgarian-Soviet friendship and comprehensive rapprochement between our fraternal countries. The revolutionary unity of the BCP and the CPSU, their loyalty to Marxism-Leninism and to proletarian socialist internationalism are the basis for the indestructible alliance between our countries and peoples.

Bulgaria takes an active part in the development and deepening of socialist economic integration within the CEMA framework. This was clearly manifested at the Moscow summit. We are doing everything to strengthen the defense might of the Warsaw Pact Organization, the most reliable shield against imperialist intrigues.

Bulgaria pursues a consistent peace-loving foreign policy and campaigns for the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans and for goodneighborliness and peace throughout the world. We fully support the peace-loving initiatives of the Soviet Union aimed at the preservation of peace and at saving mankind from nuclear catastrophe. We are resolutely opposed to political cynicism and the reckless militarist course of U.S. imperialism and NATO and to revanchism and all those who forget the lessons of history.

Bulgaria has always gone and will always go shoulder to shoulder with the great country of the soviets.

Dear friends, accept the warmest fraternal greetings of the Bulgarian people, their profound gratitude for your friendship and love and wishes for health, happiness and the successful implementation of the plans of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Thank you for your attention.

Gorbachev at Military Parade

LD091331 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 9 Sep 84

[Text] A military parade and demonstration of working people devoted to the 40th anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria was held in Sofia today in the festively decorated Ninth of September Square. On the Georgi Dimitrov Mausoleum platform were Comrade Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria; other leaders of the BCP and government; a Soviet party and government delegation led by Comrade Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and the heads of the delegations of other socialist and friendly countries.

Representatives of all branches of the Bulgarian People's Army and also powerful modern equipment of the country's Armed Forces paraded past the platform. A festive demonstration by the capital's working people followed. Its participants stated their firm determination in every way to strengthen unbreakable friendship and cooperation with the peoples of the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community.

Reception Held

LD091818 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 9 Sep 84

[Text] The Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee, the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Bulgarian People's Republic held a reception today to mark the national holiday of the 40th anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria. Present at the reception were Comrade Todor Zhivkov and other leaders of the republic, veterans of the workers' and communist movement, frontranking workers, and scientific and cultural figures. The Soviet party and government delegation led by Comrade Gorbachev, and delegations from other socialist and friendly countries also attended the reception.

E. Europe Media Coverage

For Eastern European media reportage covering the visit by the Soviet delegation led by Mikhail Gorbachev, as well as other Eastern European delegations visiting on the occasion of the Bulgarian National Day, please see the Bulgaria section of the 10 September Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

ISRAELI 'ANTI-AFGHAN' ACTIVITY CONDEMNED

LD092234 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The explosion of a bomb planted at Kabul airport, killing and wounding dozens of peaceable Afghans, women and children included, has pleased the enemies of the Afghan people. Amid a wide chorus of evil voices, the voice of Israel -- the radio station that pollutes the airwaves all day with programs beamed to Afghanistan -- is heard. These programs openly support the so-called mujahidin for the Islamic religion, men of the Afghan counterrevolution. It is worth mentioning that the Israeli media reports with pleasure any sabotage or terrorist act by the enemies of the revolution and confirms friendship with the so-called mujahidin for the Islamic religion. Here, the old proverb that says: Tell me who your friend is and I will tell you who you are, must be mentioned. Thus, if Israel is a friend, we can say with certainty that the one it supports is an enemy of the Muslims.

Few know, and the Israeli leaders do not announce that Israel supports the Afghan counter-revolution, and not only with words and waging a propaganda campaign against the Afghan people. In addition to the United States, Pakistan and some other countries, Israel directly participates in the undeclared war against Afghanistan. Last year AFRIQUE-ASIE wrote that Israel's share in this dirty war was estimated at about $100 million, because Israel provides the mercenary gangs with firearms and various artillery and electronic equipment, including night-vision apparatuses. DER SPIEGEL, citing trusted sources, has lately reported that Israeli military industries have begun to supply Israeli Uzi machineguns to the Afghan counterrevolution.

Leaders of the gangs themselves unashamedly talk about the Israeli assistance to the counterrevolution. For instance, a person called Zia Khan Naseri, leader of one of the counterrevolutionary groups operating from Pakistan, in a statement to the Western press, openly admitted that Israel is one of the friendly states from which they receive assistance. It must be mentioned that Zia Khan Naseri, an American citizen with close links to the CIA, openly met representatives of the Mossad, the Israeli terrorist spy organization. The existing anti-Afghanistan cooperation between the CIA and the Mossad started during the first days of the April revolution in Afghanistan. At first, it was confined to supplying intelligence information on Afghanistan to the CIA. A short while later, however, Israel joined the undeclared war against Afghanistan. The Mossad suggested inciting some Muslims against other Muslims. This is an old Israeli method used widely in the Middle East where it kindles, together with the United States, differences among the Arabs and stirs up armed conflicts. This method was used against Afghanistan.

It is known that very close links existed between the Mossad and the shah's Savak. Thousands of Savak men, on the orders of Yehoshu's Sagi, former head of Israel military intelligence, joined the criminals being sent to Afghanistan to kill Muslim leaders, women, children and the old. In the past, THE JERUSALEM POST and the FINANCIAL TIMES reported on the personal involvement of Sagi in the undeclared war against Afghanistan. Regarding Pakistan, not long ago an Israeli radio station operated in a semi-official manner. It broadcast special programs to Afghanistan that included incitement against the government. The operators of the station were Israelis and it was financed by Israel. Now the Israelis in Pakistan, carrying American and other foreign passports, directly participate preparing terrorist acts against the peaceable Afghan citizens. Among the Israeli advisors with non-Israeli passports, are those with long experience in such activity against the Arabs.

The Israeli-trained terrorists came more than once to Afghanistan with mines in the shape of toys. This matter is known well to the Lebanese and the Palestinians whose children had found such toys. Thus work the Israeli Zionists in the undeclared war against Afghanistan.

ISRAELI BOMBING OF BHAMDUN IN LEBANON REPORTED

LD100901 Moscow TASS in English 0755 GMT 10 Sep 84

[Text] Beirut September 10 TASS -- Israeli occupationists have committed one more crime in Lebanon. Last night the aggressor planes massively bombed the area of Bhamdun, located southeast of Beirut. There are numerous civilian casualties, dwelling houses were wrecked.

SALIMOV-LED DELEGATION RETURNS FROM LIBYA

PM071615 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Sep 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Return to Moscow"]

[Text] The Soviet state delegation headed by A.U. Salimov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, returned to Moscow from Tripoli on 5 September. It took part in celebrations to mark the 15th anniversary of Libya's September revolution.

During its stay in the Libyan capital, the Soviet state delegation was received by M. al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution.

LIBYAN FORCES IN STATE OF COMBAT READINESS

LD072353 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1859 GMT 6 Sep 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] Tripoli: The Supreme Command of the Libyan Armed Forces has published a report saying that ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet are conducting large-scale manuevers in the approaches to the territorial waters of Libya. Taking part in these manuevers are the aircraft carriers America and Saratoga as well as 16 other warships.

In response to this provocative act, the communique of the Libyan Command says, units of the country's Armed Forces have been brought to a state of combat readiness.

U.S. NATO MILITARY PRESENCE IN MIDEAST VIEWED

LD090922 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 Sep 84

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program prepared by Aleksandr Timoshkin]

[Text] The U.S. State Department has categorically rejected the report that the special American naval force unit in the Red Sea may leave after being there for more than a month under the pretext of searching for mines. The U.S. State Department declared that both American and other NATO warships would continue and even expand their operations to include Sudanese territorial waters in the Red Sea.

The commander of the British warships said that the mine clearing operations would continue for a few more months. The intention therefore is to maintain the military presence of the United States and its closest NATO allies in the Red Sea even though no mine has yet been found. In the face of this revelation the American military men and correspondents believe that all the mines planted in the Red Sea have exploded.

We ask: Isn't he who indeed planted the mines in the Red Sea trying to obliterate the traces that might expose him? Papers in Arab and other countries have referred to the role of the American CIA in the mining of the Red Sea. At the same time, the acts of war in the Red Sea by the United States and its NATO allies are taking place in the context of intensified military pressure on the Arab countries in an attempt to impose their imperialist will and domination.

In the framework of this policy, the U.S. 6th Fleet is currently conducting provocative maneuvers in the Libyan Jamahiriyah territorial waters. The objective of the maneuvers is no secret: It is to tighten the blockade of revoluntionary Libya, which is firmly following an independent anti-imperialist policy. For this reason, Washington has dubbed the Libyan Jamahiriyah a terrorist state against which the necessary military force can be used, as an American general described it. To sum up, Washington still acts in a manner that obliges Arabs to live in accordance with American rules. However, as Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko said, no matter how much the United States flexes its military muscles, it will not be able to change the world, and the world will not live in accordance with American norms.

As an example, the regrettable fate of the U.S. military muscle-flexing operation in Lebanon comes to mind. Yes, the Libyan Jamahiriyah is taking firm measures today to protect its national security and its independence.

REACTIVATION OF GREEN BERETS ANALYZED

LD080133 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Aleksandr Timoshkin's weekly talk]

[Excerpts] AP reported that following a long absence, the Green Beret unit has returned to active service in the U.S. Army. This unit will be under the command of the U.S. Special Forces. The commander of these forces said that the Green Beret unit is now more essential for the United States than ever before. What is its purpose? The commander openly said that its purpose is to halt liberation wars.

It should be pointed out that the criminal U.S. Green Beret detachments, which had a fearfully bloody impact in Vietnam, specialize in sabotage and airborne landing; they also advise and instruct in the prepartion of counterrevolutionaries to wage undeclared wars by the United States against the liberated countries -- for example, against Democratic Afghanistan, and revolutionary Nicaragua. The Green Beret detachments and the U.S. Marines Corps are a form of the Rapid Deployment Force that was set up by the Pentagon on White House orders to carry out offensive invasion operations in the areas regarded as vital to U.S. interests -- including, for example, the Middle East, with its vast oil resources and its strategic position useful to the Pentagon.

Against whom can these units be used in the Middle East? They can be used against the Palestinian resistance movement that is striving in a way the Americans define as terrorism. They can be used against the Libyan Jamahiriyah, which has been classfied by Washington as being a terrorist state.

On this basis, the United States uses impudent politico-military pressure and, even more, organizes subversive operations against it. The Green Beret detachments can also be deployed against the members of the Lebanese resistance who are carrying out a heroic armed struggle for the liberation of their land from the Israeli occupiers -- the strategic allies of the United States in international piracy. The U.S. militarists have some Lebanese experience to bear here, albeit with a regrettable ending.

But who does not know that the United States is striving to avenge all its military and political defeats everywhere?

KHOMEYNI CAUTIONS AGAINST RELIGIOUS DICTATORSHIP

LD090421 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 7 Sep 84

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Recently, reports have been coming in increasingly frequently from Tehran about the dissatisfaction among wide sections of the population with the absolute power of the clergy. The clergy is interfering in all aspects of Iranian life, and is attempting to direct not only the political process, but also economic life, trade, and even military operations.

This phenomenon is becoming so widespread -- and is evidently having such negative consequences -- that, as the official news agency of the Islamic Republic reported, Ayatollah Khomeyni addressed a group of prominent figures in the country's capital.

According to the agency, Imam Khomeyni expressed dissatisfaction with the tendency among a number of religious figures to take part in deciding political and administrative questions of the state, to the detriment of their spiritual and religious tasks.

Further, the agency cites Ayatollah Khomeyni's following words: I have repeatedly stated that religious figures should be satisfied with the fact that they have been entrusted with the people's spiritual education, and not seek to hold the reigns of government. You should see to it that one day our people cannot criticize us as useless people who are perpetrating actions contrary to what we preached. We cannot, Khomeyni stressed, ignore the accusation against us that we are running a religious dictatorship.

Political observers assume that the statement by Khomeyni, who had remained silent on this question for a long time, is a reflection of the growing dissatisfaction in Iran with what he called "religious dictatorship." Another reason for the speech by the Iranian leader, observers say, is the serious difficulties inside the country, including economic, and the unwillingness of the religious bosses to become an object of criticism for political failures.

WORKERS PARTY CONGRESS CONTINUES IN ETHIOPIA

Romanov's Speech Reported

LD090019 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 8 Sep 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The constitutent congress of the Workers Party of Ethiopia is continuing its work in Addis Ababa. Those taking part have unanimously approved the Central Committee of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia [COPWE] report, which was given by Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and COPWE. Comrade Romanov, head of the CPSU delegation, member of the Politburo and CPSU Central Committee Secretariat, who was warmly received by those assembled, spoke at the congress. In his speech he said:

[Begin Romanov recording] It is my pleasure to carry out an honorable mission and convey to you, delegates of the Workers Party of Ethiopia constituent congress, the best representatives of the country's working masses and fighters for its socialist future, fraternal greetings from the CPSU Central Committee, Soviet communists and the entire Soviet people. [applause] On the even of our delegation's departure from Moscow, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, wished successful work in the interests of developing the revolution and prosperity of their homeland, to all those present today who are proclaiming the creation of a party guided by the ideas of Marxism-Leninism in Ethiopia. [applause]

We were greatly impressed by the report delivered by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, the acknowledged leader of the Ethiopian people, an outstanding son of Africa and a prominent figure in the international revolutionary movement. This important political document convincingly showed that a happy future for Ethiopia is inseparably linked with the construction of a socialist society. Thus, one of the great Lenin's behests that it is impossible to advance without moving towards socialism is again confirmed in concrete reality. [applause]

We are required to implement out peaceful and creative plans in a complete and acute international situation. The threat of nuclear war continues to mount. The cause is known. It lies in the course pursued by the aggressive circles of imperialism and above all by U.S. imperialism -- a course aimed at confrontation with the forces of socialism and national liberation, the achievements of military superiority and undermining the independence of states and peoples. [applause]

In his speech Comrade Mengistu spoke with great warmth about the homeland of Lenin and about the support the CPSU has extended to the Ethiopian revolution. We cherish this appraisal. [applause] The start of a qualitatively new stage in the development of Soviet-Ethiopian friendship was set in September 1974. Comrade Chernenko spoke about this as follows: Longstanding friendly links exist between our peoples, but it is only since the victory of the Ethiopian revolution that these relations have truly flourished and begun to sparkle with new facets. [applause] [end recording]

Comrade Romanov presented a commemorative gift from the CPSU Central Committee to the congress, a red banner bearing the image of the founder of the Communist Party and the Soviet state, Vladimir Ilich Lenin, and the militant call: Proletarians of all countries, unite!

TASS Reports Romanov Speech

LD071531 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] Addis Ababa September 7 TASS -- Only ten years have passed since the national democratic revolution in Ethiopia but by the content and scope of changes in the life of the country and of its citizens these ten years constitute a whole epoch, stated Grigoriy Romanov, the head of the delegation of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, speaking today at a constituent congress of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia.

The founding of a workers' party of Ethiopia is the major gain of the country's working people, he said. The creative approach has been shown and original forms and methods of party building which meet national specifics have been found in the accomplishment of this task, the task which is of truly historic significance.

Touching upon the international situation, the head of the delegation of the CPSU emphasised that the threat of a nuclear war continues to grow. The cause is known: It lies in the course which is being pursued by the aggressive circles of imperialism, and first of all by the imperialism of the United States of America, towards confrontation with the forces of socialism and national liberation, towards achieving military superiority, and towards undermining the independence of states and peoples.

It is with that end in view that an unbridled arms race is being conducted. It is with that end in view that the policy of state terrorism, blockades and sanctions is being pursued. It is with that end in view that barbarous acts of aggression are staged against freedom-loving peoples in various parts of the globe, be it Africa or Central America, the Near or Middle East, South East Asia or the Pacific Ocean area.

Washington's policy in the south of Africa, too, leads to further aggravation of conflicts, and not to peace, Grigoriy Romanov pointed out. The United States of America, having entered an overt alliance with the bitterest enemies of African peoples -- the racists of the Republic of South Africa -- seeks to keep and consolidate the regime of apartheid which exactly poses the main threat to peace in the area.

An unworthy game is being conducted around Namibia. In words the United States and its allies state their adherence to the United Nations' resolutions on the decolonisation of Namibia while in actual fact they do everything to frustrate their implementation.

A tense situation keeps on in the horn of Africa through the fault of imperialism and its agents, Grigoriy Romanov went on to say. Washington insolently declares the territories of sovereign states located there to be the sphere of action of its military. Bases of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force are being set up near the borders of your country. The USA and other NATO countries use every pretext to increase their military presence in the area of the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

The new constructive initiatives which have been put forward of late by our country and other fraternal socialist countries are also prompted by concern for the improvement of the international climate, the speaker went on to say. The USSR has suggested as follows: All nuclear powers should assume an obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons -- the pledge which the Soviet Union has already made unilaterally; agree to a freeze on nuclear arsenals; ban any tests of nuclear weapons; fully free Europe from nuclear weapons both medium-range and tactical ones; encourage the establishment of nuclear-free zones in various parts of the world, including Africa; prevent militarisation of outer space.

We also suggest banning and destroying chemical weapons; concluding a treaty on mutual non-use of military force and on the maintenance of relations of peace between NATO states and the states of the Warsaw Treaty organizations. The USSR consistently comes out in favour of diminishing foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean and holding talks with the United States on that matter.

However, Washington's reaction to these and other Soviet initiatives is invariably negative. The imperialist goals of the Reagan administration are revealed with cynical frankness by the election platform of the Republican Party.

In matters aimed at preserving peace the Soviet Union holds and will hold a firm and consistent position, the head of the delegation of the CPSU stated. We do not threaten anyone and do not seek to attain military superiority. Our ideal is a world without weapons. But we have no right to allow and we shall not allow imperialist military superiority, an upsetting of the existing balance of forces.

Such a line determines the Soviet Union's policy in Africa as well. "Our approach to African problems is a principled and open one", Konstantin Chernenko emphasizes. "We do not pursue any interests which could be at variance with the aspirations of the Africans themselves. At the same time, we utterly oppose the conversion of the continent into an arena of global political confrontation, and the more so, military one. And, of course, we categorically reject attempts at declaring Africa or its individual areas to be a sphere of anyone's 'vital interests'."

The USSR, like before, will continue to solidarize with the "frontline states", and with the peoples of South Africa and Namibia who under the leadership of the African National Congress and the SWAPO wage a courageous struggle against colonialism and racism.

In conclusion, the head of the delegation of the CPSU pointed out that the beginning of a qualitatively new stage in the development of Soviet-Ethiopian [words indistinct] was set in September 1974. Today the relations between the two countries are based on the tested principles of equality and internationalist solidarity. They are sealed by the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and Socialist Ethiopia.

Mengistu's Speech Reported

LD080019 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] Addis Ababa September 6 TASS -- The delegates of the Constituent Congress of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia (WPE), which is under way here, have unanimously approved the main report prepared by the Central Committee of the Commission for Organizing the Party of Working People of Ethiopia (COPWE) and delivered at the forum by Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) of Ethiopia and COPWE leader.

In his report, he stressed that by now the program of the national democratic revolution has in the main been fulfilled. The party's priority tasks at the present stage are to establish the material and technical basis for socialist construction, to ensure the prevalence of socialist relations in production, and to raise the living and cultural standards of the working people.

The further progress of Ethiopia, the chairman of the PMAC and of the COPWE, said, will be based on the ten-year plan for the country's economic and social development, which has been drawn up by the government. The plan provides for a number of measures to strengthen industry whose share in gross national production will grow from 16.6 to 24 percent over the next ten years.

Agriculture in which peasant production cooperatives will play an ever greater role will also develop at priority rates. By the end of the ten-year period the cooperatives will unite 53 percent of the rural workers. The mining and construction industries, transport, the educational system and public health services will be further developed. Measures will be adopted to expand the network of government-run retail trade establishments.

Due attention will be paid to improving the training of qualified personnel and to educating the working masses in the spirit of patriotism and proletarian internationalism. In this connection Mengistu Haile Mariam stressed the important role which broad-based public organisations are called upon to play in the country's political life.

In the field of state development, the party sets itself the task of creating in Ethiopia a people's democratic republic in which socialist legality and the principles of equality among different nationalities will reign supreme. The chairman of the PMAC and of the COPWE pointed out that these principles will be implemented through granting local self-government to the nationalities living in Ethiopia. Work is currently under way in the country to draft a constitution which will ensure the triumph of justice in Ethiopia.

Mengistu Haile Mariam then dwelt on the national question in Ethiopia and ways of solving it. It is obvious, he said, that because of the strategic location of Ethiopia reaction and international imperialism are actively opposing the revolution there and using nationalism as a means of their subversive policy. Separatist organizations have been able to sustain their reactionary activities, by drawing generous aid in return for their waving of the flag of nationalism and serving as a tool for carrying out the strategic designs of imperialism and reaction. The objective of these machinations and of the collusion of imperialism and reaction is to smear the example set by the Ethiopian revolution to the other countries in the area of the Red Sea and in Africa.

It is said explicitly in the program of the national democratic revolution in Ethiopia that, with account taken of the objective conditions existing here, regional autonomy is a practical way of solving the national question. Until favourable conditions are created for this, the adopted measures, especially in what concerns the rights of nationalities, are being implemented with account taken of the general interests of the entire population of the country.

Touching upon the party's positions in the field of international relations, Mengistu Haile Mariam stressed the importance of efforts to preserve world peace. On behalf of the WPE constituent congress he reaffirmed commitment to the principle of peaceful coexistence and pointed out that the Ethiopian revolution proceeds in its foreign policy from the principles of respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of other states and non-interference in their internal affairs.

The Ethiopian revolution, the speaker said, is one of the main targets of pressure on the part of imperialism. The United States has established a network of military bases in this region and is now concluding preparations for doubling the so-called Rapid Deployment Force. Mengistu Haile Mariam strongly denounced the adventuristic policy of imperialism which represents mortal danger to the whole world. He exposed the covert and overt intrigues of the United States in the horn of Africa and in Latin America and voiced solidarity with the struggle of the peoples of Nicaragua and El Salvador.

When analysing the situation in the Organization of African Unity, the speaker recalled that its founding has been a milestone in the victorious anti-colonial struggle which holds an important place in the history of Africa. At present imperialism is resorting to all manner of intrigues and stoking up disagreements between OAW member countries.

The efforts of the whole of progressive mankind, the Ethiopian leader stressed, are now aimed at defusing international tension and at terminating the arms race and attempts to use space for military purposes. He expressed support for the constructive proposals for safeguarding world peace, which the Soviet Union has repeatedly advanced in the United Nations and other forums.

During the years of trial for the Ethiopian revolution, when international imperialism launched a large-scale offensive against it, he noted, the USSR and other socialist states firmly came out in support of the people's gains in this country. Thanks to that help and also as a result of the heroic struggle of the working people for liberation, the Ethiopian revolution has reached the present stage where it has become possible to establish a vanguard party. Its agreements of friendship and cooperation with socialist countries are bringing ever more tangible results in every field of Ethiopia's economic, social and cultural development.

Having stressed the historic significance of the WPE constituent congress, Mengistu Haile Mariam expressed the conviction that the Ethiopian people will under the banner of proletarian internationalism triumph in building the foundations of socialist society and in safeguarding peace.

New Party Rules Reviewed

LD082312 Moscow TASS in English 2055 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Text] Addis Ababa September 8 TASS -- The constituent congress of the Ethiopian Workers' Party adopted party rules today. The document is based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism which ensure the party's vanguard role in the struggle for the completion of the national democratic revolution, creation of a material and technical base and construction of socialist society, said member of the Standing Committee of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and Executive Committee of the Commission for Organising the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia Legesse Lasfaw. Principles of party work are defined in the rules proceeding from the peculiarities and historical conditions of the Ethiopian revolution and tasks advanced in the party programme.

The document, defining the organisational structure of the Workers' Party, points out that it is the centre carrying out political leadership over the struggle of workers and all labouring masses in Ethiopia for the establishment of a socialist society that ensures equality, freedom and prosperity, the society in which the exploitation of man by man is eliminated once and for all. The Ethiopian Workers' Party, the rules say, is a Marxist-Leninist party uniting front-rank citizens, first of all workers, as well as peasants, servicemen, intellectuals and civil servants, who are upholding the interests of the working people, placing them before their own interests.

In fulfilling its vanguard role, the document says, the Ethiopian Workers' Party is applying maximum effort to make the Marxist-Leninist teaching a guide for action not only for the party, but also for all working people. Struggle against dogmatism, revisionism and factionalism is part of the work on spreading the teaching of Marx and Lenin. The Ethiopian Workers' Party makes its contribution to developing Marxism-Leninism.

The party attaches great importance to establishing close links with the masses, ensuring their participation in the process of founding a people's democratic republic. Party members, the rules say, must recognise the programme and rules of the party, work in one of its organisations and take an active part in the construction of a new society.

A congress, electing the Central Committee, is the supreme body of the Workers' Party, according to its rules. The Political Bureau of the Central Committee, the Secretariat of the Central Committee, the Central Auditing Commission and the Central Control Commission are the central leading bodies. The Central Committee of the Workers' Party elects general secretary.

The party's programme was also unanimously adopted at the evening session.

Economic Agreement Signed

PM101105 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Sep 84 First Edition p 5

[Text] Addis Ababa, 9 Sep -- Yesterday a long-term program for economic cooperation between the USSR and Socialist Ethiopia that will put the development of economic relations between the two countries on a planned basis was signed.

The document was signed by Guriy Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, member of the CPSU Central Committee and member of the CPSU delegation to the founding congress of the Workers Party of Ethiopia (WPE), and by Hadis Tedla, member of the Permanent Committee of the Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) and the Executive Committee of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia, and deputy chairman of the Supreme Council of the National Revolutionary Campaign for Economic Development and Central Planning.

At the ceremony on this occasion, G.I. Marchuk noted that over 50 agreements and other intergovernmental documents on bilateral economic cooperation issues have been signed between the USSR and Ethiopia in recent years. The USSR's aid in this respect particularly promotes the development of the key branches of Ethiopia's national economy. For his part, Hadis Tedla expressed confidence that the multi-faceted assistance given by the USSR for strengthening Ethiopia's economic potential would broaden and deepen. It is noteworthy, he said, that the long-term program was signed during the work of the WPE's constituent congress.

Present at the signing of the long-term program were Grigoriy Romanov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and head of the CPSU delegation at the founding congress of the WPE; and delegation members Rakhman Nabiyev, member of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Tajikistan Communist Party; and Konstantin Fomichenko, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee, and USSR ambassador to Ethiopia, as well as members of the Ethiopian leadership.

LESOTHO FOREIGN MINISTER ENDS USSR TRIP

PM071023 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Sep 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Departure for Home"]

[Text] A delegation of the Basotho National Party headed by V. Makhele, the party's general secretary and foreign minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho, left Moscow for home 4 September. It was in the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries.

TEITELBOIM CITED ON CHILEAN PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE

PY070253 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2000 GMT 4 Sep 84

[From the "Volodia Comments" feature by Volodia Teitelboim, member of the Political Bureau of the Chilean Communist Party]

[Excerpts] Last week in Santiago, a Chilean Communist Party leader said that popular rebellion, public acts of disobedience of the masses against the sham fascist legal system, the 100 forms of struggle the people have been developing in practice in their efforts to resist tyranny, have been key factors in prompting the tangible changes beginning in early 1983.

Most opposition sectors have essentially adopted positions denying legitimacy to the de facto government and demanding, with varying force, its termination and that a system of government be established under which the people can sovereignly decide their future.

Without this rather heroic position, which reflects an open rejection of the spurious institutional system and despotism, the accelerated deteriotation of the dictatorship would have been inconceivable. All opposition sectors have benefited from the drastic change caused by these new forms of struggle. Even the most moderate, centrist, or conservative opposition sectors, which had placed high hopes on White House support -- which continues to back its man at La Moneda Palace, Mr Pinochet -- (?changed its position) and became aware that there were new prospects for achieving these goals.

Confusing discussions on whether the people are legitimately entitled to rebel against a dictatorship that has used unprecedented harshness and violence for more than 10 years, have only benefited Pinochet. In vulgar remarks to THE NEW YORK TIMES, Pinochet boasts and compares himself with the best Roman emperors, and shows disdain for the Chilean opposition by disparagingly noting that it has no chance because it is splintered into many groups.

Mr Pinochet is quite wrong when he states with offensive arrogance and narrowmindedness that he will become a lifetime dictator. These are his goals, but the nation has made a completely different decision. This was again demonstrated today. The lesson recently learned has taught all opposition sectors, especially their leaders, that the way of struggle [combate] is the only one that will lead us to success, and guarantee victory to the people, and to the nation through the people.

It would be absurd, fatal, and blind to continue to waste time in mutilating the umbrella opposition group by persisting in useless exclusions. In keeping with the lesson stemming from the giant demonstration occurring today and the one that will take place tomorrow, it is imperative now to seek unity without exclusions, in order to secure democracy and to throw the Roman emperor to the gates of hell.

RSFSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DISCUSSES AGRICULTURE

PM071345 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 5 Sep 84 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "At the RSFSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] A session of the RSFSR Council of Ministers was held 3 September, with the participation of the chairmen of autonomous republic Councils of Ministers, krayispolkoms, and oblispolkoms, representatives of union and republican ministries and departments, local soviet and agricultural organs, and production frontrunners. The question of "the work of RSFSR soviet and agricultural organs in fulfilling plans and socialist pledges in the current year and tasks of increasing the production and purchases of livestock products in the 1984-1985 winter period" was discussed.

The RSFSR was awared the Certificate of Honor of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and Komsomol Central Committee, conferred on the republic for achieving the highest results in the all-union socialist competition for the successful overwintering of livestock and for increasing the production and purchases of livestock products in the 1983-1984 winter period. The certificate was presented by Z.N. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

It was noted at the session that enhanced attentiveness toward livestock raising made it possible to improve many indicators in that very important sector of agriculture.

The successes achieved in livestock raising are the result of selfless labor by a large detachment of stockmen, machine operators, specialists, farm leaders, and all who work in the agro-industrial complex, and are the outcome of creative and organizational work by party, soviet, trade union, Komsomol, and economic organs.

At the same time it was noted that individual autonomous republics, krays, and oblasts are allowing meat, milk, and egg production to fall this year and are not fulfilling the plans laid down for their sales to the state.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers instructed the relevant ministries and departments, autonomous republic Councils of Ministers, krayispolkoms, and oblispolkoms to adopt urgent measures for the prompt, high quality harvesting, transportation, and storage of grain crops, potatoes, vegetables, sugar beets, sunflowers, feed crops, and other crops. They must ensure the fulfillment of plans and targets for purchases of grain and other arable and livestock products.

It was decided to take active part in the all-union socialist competition for the successful wintering of livestock this year and for increased production and purchases of livestock products in the 1984-1985 winter period.

Certain other topical questions of the work of the republic's soviet and economic organs were also examined.

Taking part in the work of the RSFSR Council of Ministers were leading workers from the AUCCTU, the Komsomol Central Committee, the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and union ministries and departments.

The session was addressed by V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

LITHUANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY PLENUM ON PARTY WORK

PM082018 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Sep 84 First Edition p 2

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent D. Shnyukas: "Plenum Held"]

[Text] Vilnius, 6 Sep -- Questions of the further improvement of the style and methods of party work were discussed at the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee plenum.

The report by P.P. Grishkyavichus, first secretary of the Central Committee, and other speakers' statements analyzed in detail the practice of party building in light of the requirements of the 26th party congress and the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums. The appropriate resolution was adopted on the discussed question.

DOLGIKH SPEAKS ON CONSTRUCTION SHORTCOMINGS

PM071338 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Sep 84 First Edition p 2

["In the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] A conference of heads of ministries and departments was held 6 September in the CPSU Central Committee,in which the implementation of the proposals by Comrade Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to strengthen the material-technical base, to further industrialize building, and to bring projects nearing completion in 1984 into operation was discussed.

A speech was made at the conference by Comrade Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

It was stressed that the proposals and conclusions of Comrade Chernenko are of fundamental significance for the radical improvement of capital construction. The state of affairs in this industry, though it has improved somewhat in the current year, continues to give rise to serious concern. The plans laid down for assimilating capital investments and the commissioning of fixed capital are not being fulfilled. The heads of ministries and departments have been set the task of considerably raising the technical and organizational level of construction work on the basis of the widespread introduction of new equipment and technology, efficient designs and materials, means of mechanization of labor and improvements in methods of management. Attention was drawn to the need for resolute elimination of shortcomings in the organization of building production, for using the existing capacities of the building industry, material resources, machines and mechanisms. This is a major reserve for raising efficiency and increasing building rates.

It was noted at the conference that in the remaining period of the current year, it will be necessary to carry out a demanding construction program. This demands the maximum concentration of capacity and resources at the sites due for completion in 1984 and the stepping up of organizational work directly in the labor collectives, raising the responsibility of leading cadres for fulfilling the set targets for bringing production capacities, housing and social and amenity projects into operation.

Executive discipline should be constantly strengthened; efficient work and precise interaction of contracting ministries, contractor ministries, and all participants in construction work should be ensured.

An important task of the material-technical supply organs and the engineering ministries is the timely provision of the necessary technical equipment to building sites.

The conference noted practical measures for the improvement of the activities of ministries and departments and raising their organizational role in the fulfillment of the capital construction plan for the current year and the creation of the necessary conditions for stable and rhythmical work in 1985.

CHERNENKO, GRISHIN, TRUSHIN HONOR ANDROPOV

PM070840 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 31 Aug 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "To a True Son of the Leninist Party"]

[Text] Yesterday a memorial plaque was ceremonially unveiled on the USSR KGB building.

It was installed in accordance with the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Perpetuating the Memory of Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov." A rally was devoted to the unveiling of the memorial plaque. It was opened by V.P. Trushin, secretary of Moscow Gorkom.

In all the posts where Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov worked through the will of the party, he devoted his strength, knowledge, and immense life experience to unswervingly implementing party policy and struggling for the triumph of communist ideals, V.P. Trushin said in addressing the gatherings. The qualities of a major political leader were clearly visible in all the multifaceted activity of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov -- in Komsomol work, in the organization of the partisan movement in Karelia during the Great Partiotic War years, and in crucial sectors of party and diplomatic activity. He put a great deal of work into strengthening our state security.

Firmly following the teaching and behests of V.I. Lenin, Yuriy Vladimirovich was tirelessly concerned that the party should more fully implement its growing leading and guiding role in society -- the role of the Soviet people's political vanguard. In the supreme state post of chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov did much to enhance the prestige of organs of soviet power and to improve their work. He showed daily concern for the good of the people and the growth of their material and cultural level.

Speaking at the extraordinary plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted: "Organizational talent, a clear creative mind, fidelity to Leninism in theory and policy, an acute sense of the new, the ability to accumulate the masses' life experience, intolerance of everything alien to our world outlook, way of life, and our morality, and personal charm and modesty -- all this won for Yuriy Vladimirovich immense prestige and respect in the party and among the people... To continue and move further ahead with the work started by Yuriy Vladimirovich is the best way of paying homage to his memory."

The unveiling of the memorial plaque commemorating Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov is a tribute of profound respect to a Leninist-Communist whose life will inspire many generations of Communists as an example of selfless service to the party, the socialist fatherland, the cause of the working class, and the building of socialism and communism, V.P. Trushin said.

The USSR national anthem rang out. The curtain fell from the memorial plaque to reveal to the rally participants a bas-relief portrait of Yuriy Vladimirovich and the words: "In this building from 1967 through 1982 Hero of Socialist Labor Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, and outstanding figure in the Communist Party, the Soviet state, and the world communist and workers movements, worked as chairman of the USSR KGB."

Ye.I. Grishin, chairman of Moscow's Dzerzhinskiy Rayispolkom, took the rostrum.

This event is especially dear to us of Dzerzhinskiy Rayon, he said, since Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, whose life is a model of service to the interests of the party and the people, worked for many years in our rayon. In all the areas of work to which Yuriy Vladimirovich was sent by the party, he acted energetically and purposefully, fully devoting his knowledge and strength to further strengthening peace, the unity of party and people, and the prosperity of the socialist motherland. Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov devoted great attention to the socioeconomic developement of Moscow and to increasing Muscovities' living standard. The people of Dzerzhinskiy Rayon revere Yu.V. Andropov's memory; they are achieving new successes in developing the rayon's economy and in fulfilling the plans for 1984 and the 11th 5-Year Plan with conscientious labor.

The rally was also addressed by N.P. Yemokhonov, deputy chairman of the USSR KGB, Hero of Socialist Labor V.G. Komarov, fitter and installation worker at the Sergo Ordzhonikidze Machine Tool Building Plant, and A.B. Suplatov, secretary of the KGB party committee.

Senior officials from Moscow Gorkom and Moscow Gorispolkom, leaders of a number of ministries and departments, representatives of the capital's public, and Yu.V. Andropov's relatives and friends took part in the rally devoted to the unveiling of the memorial plaque.

The memorial plaque was created by I.M. Rukavishnikov, sculptor, people's artist of RSFSR, and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Arts, and G.V. Makarevich, merited architect of the RSFSR and USSR State Prize winner.

The rally ended with subunits of three categories of troops marching past with measured tread. Fresh flowers were laid at the memorial plaque commemorating an outstanding figure in our party and state.

SEVEROMUYSKIY TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION BEGUN ON BAM

OW081045 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0400 GMT 7 Sep 84

[From the Novosti newscast]

[Text] The Baykal-Amur Mainline: The first dozen meters of rail have been laid in the Severomuyskiy tunnel. This work was begun by the collective of the 11th tunnel detachment, the one which conducted tunneling and finishing work on the 3-km underground passage.

Judging by the pledges of the builders, the tunnel will be in service by the time of the mainline's permanent operation.

IGNATOVSKIY ON VIABILITY OF ECONOMIC EXPERIMENT

WA071430 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 15 Aug 84 p 2

[Article by P. Ignatovskiy, doctor of economic sciences, "Predicting the Consequences. The Economic Experiment: Practice and Problems"]

[Text] The power of the economic experiment lies in the lessons that may be drawn from both its success and its defaults, which no new undertaking can avoid, and which require time to work out and to spell out conclusions and recommendations.

Time has passed, and the experiment gathers strength and argues the need to give it greater scope. But now, before its terms become a mass effort, the ideas of the experiment should enter into people's awareness. Its basic idea can be clearly stated: to expand independence and increase responsibility primarily in the sense of correctly perceiving one's duties to the public and obligations to the customer.

The sole expression of this responsibility is the product or service, that is, reality. If it exists, all other indicators are more or less consolidated under the proviso that production is based on progressive and stable norms. It is in fact reality, as contained in economic turnover in the form of contractual deliveries, that becomes the predominant goal in expanding the rights and objects of responsibility. Now, any kind of production, and especially planned production, presupposes rhythm. And rhythm is deliveries.

Deliveries, of course, are not the gauge of rates, but rather a requisite for proportionality, balance, good organization, and state and planning discipline, as well as security for the efficiency of social labor. And when statistics testify that the participants in an experiment have above all achieved substantial progress in ensuring deliveries, then the experiment has been useful to a decisive extent.

Today's associations and enterprises possess a complex production structure and a developed system of cooperation. To manage this cooperation is still more complex: management practices must be adapted even more to the specifics of industry- and inter-industry links. An experiment must likewise show the degree of improvement in responsibility of not only an individual enterprise, but also of the entire industry, in the whole national economy and in each management unit.

Of course, the success of the matter is decided in the workshop, in the enterprise. But the more complex the production structure, the greater the requirement for establishing economic links on the scale of the industry and at the interfaces of inter-industry links. Inevitably there is an increase in the organizational role of industrial ministries and national economic departments in production. And the experiment takes on a new style of management, especially through cooperative links.

This style is needed not so much by a participant in the experiment as by the whole national economy. The result is not a few percentage points, but a new and higher level of management. It must be admitted that the conditions that ensure the success of the experiment and its outlook (for example, a guaranteed material and technical supply and a balance in plans) is much easier to accomplish on a small scale than for the whole national economy, but if it doesn't even turn out on the small scale, then it can only put us on our guard. Experimental difficulties do not usually dissolve on the large scale, but, on the contrary, expand by diffusing more widely.

In this connection, our attention is drawn to a problem that an experiment itself cannot solve, although it can develop the required approaches to it. This refers to the technical level of production and its correspondence to scientific and technical

progress. It is here that all the contemporary conditions of economic development are interwoven. This is the main problem in the intensification of production. It can be solved not only by economic means, but also by how capable available innovations are of producing substantial progress in reducing social labor costs, and by arranging for the adoption of innovations. It must be emphasized that this means systematic organization, and not just a matter of interest.

Economically, an experiment is called on to a greater degree to rely on new material conditions, accompanied by a technical and organizational improvement in production. But if it cannot by itself bring about a profound revolution in economic life and eliminate rush work and unjustified expenditures and stockpiles, then it has the simple obligation of molding public opinion to the necessity and feasibility of radically restructuring management practices.

Now the time has come to analyze the route that has been traveled. What has been accomplished is not always on the plus side. But even a minus has no less value. Let us take the question of the independence of enterprises in solving problems of technical re-equipping by means of the production development fund. The experiment could not even make a start, since Mintyazhmash [Ministry of Heavy Machinery Manufacture] and Minelektrotekhprom [Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry] requested a decrease in these funds and an increase in centralized capital investments. Why was this? The reasons are on the surface: centralized capital investments guarantee the planned provision of material resources. This raises the question: if the new condition cannot even be ensured in an experimental situation, doesn't that make you question its viability?

Of course, one could also argue: if only the sale of material resources was free. If only... But it isn't. We must proceed from the facts as they are. And above all, from the existence of planning priorities. This is an even more fundamental condition for the development of the economy, which makes it necessary to predict the remote consequences of various economic decisions.

The principle of self-financing conflicts not only with priorities in developing industries and solving the problems of a socialist economy, but even with ordinary sound economic practice. Like it or not, it transforms capital investments into a work incentive for an enterprise, and thereby an incentive for a stronger collective.

However, not all capital investments promote the intensification of production. And society does not need every expansion of production. Therefore, the principle, "each one pays for itself" can hardly claim to be universal. It does not always promote equalization in the economic conditions of production, and therefore in the life and labor of a collective.

In light of these and several other consequences, it appears more advisable to confine self-financing to self-supporting enterprises. That, we would say, is the way to increase the economic responsibility of a collective for the results of its labor, and satisfy its current production and social requirements. Long-range problems of technological progress can be provided for only by the concentrated efforts of the state. It is more rational for the state to plan for and accomplish the reconstruction of production on an accelerated basis, introduce new technology, and update the products list than to continue to produce obsolete equipment and other goods. The conclusion drawn by the two central ministries in the course of the experiment also directs attention to this aspect of the matter.

Practice, which has the property of being the touchstone of truth, can correct much after the fact. We must apparently make one more correction, as to what is more important for society: to stimulate an individual enterprise by means of a gradual and

therefore lengthy buildup for prolonged reconstruction, or, from a standpoint of necessity as determined by the state, to accomplish its re-equipping as quickly as possible on the basis of all available sources, including the development fund.

Thus, in analyzing the progress of the economic experiment, it is time to carefully weigh everything not only with respect to quantitative criteria, but also to what constitutes the essence of our economy and what is most typical and stable in it.

Karagedov Calls for Expansion

WA071600 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Aug 84 p 2

[Article by R. Karagedov, professor, doctor of economic sciences, "After the First Analysis. The Economy: The Large-Scale Experiment"]

[Text] So, the first seven months of the large-scale experiment to democratize the economic management of industry have passed. What have they to show? Experts of the Siberian Branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences have familiarized themselves with the work of 22 Siberian enterprises of Minelektrotekhprom [Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry] and Mintyazhmash [Ministry of Heavy Machinery Manufacture]. And while it is still too early to judge the results, some preliminary conclusions can be drawn.

We have not assumed responsibility for assessing the readiness of the "startup conditions" for the experiment. There were more than enough failings here, but they were cleared up and eliminated. In our view, it is now much more important to explain how clearly its central idea has developed -- strengthening the rights of enterprises and increasing their responsibility for the results of their work.

Opening up new possibilities has undoubtedly revitalized their economic activities, mobilized specific internal resources, and noticeably increased responsibility for strictly fulfilling planned deliveries. Four of the surveyed associations and plants fully completed planned deliveries in the first quarter for the first time in recent years. Many enterprises are vigorously exercising their new rights by using savings in the wage fund and instituting increases in salaries and wage scales.

There has also been an increase in possibilities for the technical re-equipping of industry by means of an enterprises's own funds. For example, in the Krasnoyarsk Sibtyazhmash [Siberian Heavy Machinery Plant] the production development fund in the current year doubled relative to last year. Much work has been done to improve in-plant self sufficiency and the bonus situation.

All these achievements, however modest, are evidence that the general course for improving the economic mechanism has been correctly chosen. In our view, they also argue for the advisability of extending the experiment to other industries and of increasing self-sufficiency and independence even more. Workers in the enterprises surveyed often opined that the steps taken thus far are inadequate, and that there has still been no success in overcoming lapses in obsolete planning and management practices, mainly on the part of industry agencies. These apprehensions are not without foundation. It is no accident that there is less consistency in putting those aspects of the experiment that do not depend on the enterprises but on ministries and VPOs (all-union industrial associations) into effect.

That is one of the obvious examples. The experiment is regarded as a key measure for significantly increasing the role of enterprises in drawing up plans at all stages of the planning process. But here is how the matter has sometimes turned out. The Sibelektrotyazhmash [Siberian Heavy Electrical Machinery] Plant, on receiving its

control figures, forwarded proposals for a number of indicators based on the estimates to the VPO, but they were not even looked at. The annual plan for the Elektroagregat Association was decided on without any participation by its managers or workers. The plan was forwarded to the collective last September, after which it was altered more than 10 times. And other enterprises in the electrical equipment industry, as well as in heavy- and transportation-machine building in Altay and Krasnoyarsk Krays and in Novosibirsk, Kemerovo and Irkutsk Oblasts, complain that they have been kept in the dark about the estimates arrived at for them in the 1984 plan, and that it is frequently changed.

Many enterprises do not now have stable plans. Not five-year, and not even two-year. Sometimes there is not even a firm annual plan. In this respect the experiment has thus far not brought noticeable improvement. The changes (and they are substantial) can be seen in something else: the number of management indicators has perceptibly decreased. But it is still too early to judge by how much the real rights of enterprises have expanded because of this. The fact is that the higher agencies, and mainly the ones in the industry, still require that accounts be kept on the entire battery of indicators, virtually making no distinction between management and estimating indicators.

This is especially typical of the Soyuzvagonmash [Railcar Building Trust] and Soyuzmetallurgmash [Metallurgical Machinery Trust] VPO. The latter, among other things, itself set the estimating indicators for the Krasnoyarsk Sibtyazhmash in the 1984 plan, while the enterprise must compile them. But even greater "care" is shown to the Altay Railcar Building plant: not only are its wage plan and other indicators "bestowed" on it from above, even its supplemental plan is.

The inertia of the old economic management style is retarding the further development of the experiment, and links it to the practice of "volitional" planning. At several of the enterprises we surveyed all these disparities between the plan's volume- and product-list tasks, and the lack of balance between the production program and existing capacity are "deficit" charges against material resources. The tasks of the Novosibirsk Elektrothermal Plant for the production of welded components for 1984 turned out to have been overestimated by about one a half times.

The material resources requirement for fulfilling the current year's plan is also not being met. Also in a difficult situation are the Irkutsk Heavy Machinery Building Plant imeni Kuybyshev, the Cheremkhovsk Machine Building Plant imeni Karl Marx, the Angarsk Electromechanical Kuzbasselektromotor [Kuznetsk Basin Electric Motor Plant], and Sibelektrotyazhmash. There are no noticeable changes in the organization of material and technical supply, interruptions in the deadlines for fulfilling deliveries of resources and for production plans, and difficulties in getting funds can be observed as in the past.

An important place in the experiment is given to increasing the role of economic norms. The main idea here is that the volume of funds allotted to wages, social development, and the improvement of production should constantly depend on work results. It was therefore stipulated that the norms established in the five-year plan should not be changed. But, in practice, this very important condition is often violated. The single (at least for Siberian enterprises) norm established by Minelektrotekhprom for formation of the wage fund did not consider the specific labor conditions at Elektroagregat, Sibelektrotyazhmash, the Leninsk Kuznetskiy Light Bulb Plant, or other enterprises.

Let us now turn to steps designated to expand the rights of enterprises in improving the technical level of production and increasing their incentive to adopt scientific and technical advances. It is still too early to make a final judgment on how effective they have proven: it takes a year or two for the full impact of these steps to be felt. However, the first impressions cannot but put us on the alert. Decisions that would

permit an enterprise to carry out technical reconstruction on the basis of its own funds are being poorly carried out. This is made especially clear when you are familiar with the situation at the Elektroagregat and Minusinsk Elektrotechnical Complex, and at Sibelektrotyazhmash, Elektromashina, Kuzbasselektromotor and other plants.

The expansion of opportunities for bank financing of new equipment is still only a theory: this source "did not manage" to be included in the 1984 plan. Management agencies in the industry have found indirect ways of limiting the rights of enterprises: limiting funds for technical re-equipping, reducing the corresponding allocations in the financial plan, and maintaining the previous system of allotting equipment and other resources.

At times strange things happen. For example, the VPO completely withdrew the financial reserves which the Kemerovo Electrical Equipment Plant had accumulated during the first quarter under the new system.

All these facts underscore the already expressed opinion: the practical accomplishment of the abundant opportunities inherent in the experiment is being retarded by slow and inadequate progress in the style and work methods of the industry's management agencies.

In my opinion, it is essential for the experiment to move on to the second stage, let us say at the start of next year. The experience accumulated has been generally positive, and has shown that the work accomplished is inadequate to ensure a qualitative change in the activities of enterprises. Resolution of the task outlined by the December 1983 CPSU Central Committee Plenum; namely, to start the new five-year plan with a finely tuned economic mechanism, obviously calls for new steps to increase the independence of self-sufficient production units. Both the steps in this direction that are now being carried out, and more radical ones.

In my view, they should include improving the system of industrial management, further reducing the number of tasks imposed on enterprises, developing the wholesale trade in means of production, ensuring greater flexibility in price formation, and other measures. The central idea of the second stage of the experiment remains as before -- expanding the rights and increasing the responsibility of production collectives.

In the management of the socialist national economy the leading role belongs and will always belong to a centralized planned beginning. Management with the aid of economic levers is also centralized in essence. Naturally, satisfying some very important state needs requires both obligatory tasks for enterprises and strict administrative control. Rational limits to the economic independence of enterprises obviously depends on their industrial affiliation and on a number of other specific factors, but in a very broad area the goals of the state's economic policy can be achieved by virtue of economic means of influence.

It should be emphasized that increasing enterprises' rights of self-sufficiency is by no means an end in itself. The lack of various rights eliminates a number of duties which normally carry the real reponsibility for the results of independent decisions. The broader the area of such decisions, the more energetic the activities of individual workers and of entire collectives should be.

The experiment has taken its first steps. We believe that like any experiment it will be amplified and improved. But the main point is that it will fulfill its task and aid the managers of enterprises to find real independence in carrying out their main mission -- the steady improvement of industrial efficiency.

USSR AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX COMMISSION MEETS

PM062017 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 29 Aug 84 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Session of the Agro-Industrial Complex Commission"]

[Text] At its regular session of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium Commission for Agro-Industrial Complex Questions discussed reports by Ye.Ya. Nazarov, chairman of the Krasnodar Kray Agro-Industrial Association Council, and A.I. Lutsenko, chairman of the Vinnitsa Oblast Agro-Industrial Association, on the measures being taken to ensure the prompt harvesting, transportation, and processing of sugar beets.

It was noted that farms and refineries have not yet completed maintenance work on combine harvesters, sugar beet loaders, and trucks, nor have they fulfilled the targets for the building of mechanized storage facilities and roofed areas. The accumulation of limestone for technological purposes is experiencing delays.

The commission took note of statements by the above-mentioned leaders that they are eliminating the existing shortcomings and are engaged in the prompt and proper preparation and successful conduct of crop harvesting and raw material processing.

The Councils of Ministers of beet-growing union and autonomous republics, krayispolkoms and oblispolkoms, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, and the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry have been instructed to ensure strict fulfillment of the schedules for lifting and transporting sugar beets, eliminating wastage, and fulfilling the prescribed plans for root crop procurements and sugar production.

The commission discussed the progress in constructing and commissioning the most important agro-industrial complex projects scheduled for commissioning. A report on this issue was delivered by A.A. Isayev, USSR first deputy minister of rural construction.

The USSR Ministry of Rural Construction has been instructed to take additional measures for the unconditional fulfillment of the prescribed plans for the construction of the most urgent agro-industrial complex production projects.

With a view to further developing land reclamation, making better use of land under irrigation, and achieving high and stable crops, the commission has requested the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources to resolutely improve the utilization of sprinkler equipment. Water resources organizations are allowing serious shortcomings to occur during the design and construction of irrigation systems and are failing to take measures to consolidate the operating service. As yet, the quality of the Kuban sprinkler, manufactured by enterprises under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of the Shipbuilding Industry, is below modern standards.

The question of raising the efficiency of the utilization of the refrigerated transport fleet was also discussed. The USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry has been instructed to ensure the widespread introduction of comprehensive mechanization of operations, advanced freight handling technology, the team contract method, adherence to ship traffic schedules, and prompt deliveries of fish products.

Minister of Railways N.S. Konarev reported on measures to speed up unloading operations and improve the utilization of railroad rolling stock in the transportation of agricultural freight.

The commission has ordered the leaders of the USSR Ministry of Procurements, the USSR Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry, the USSR Ministry of Trade, the USSR Ministry of Fruits and Vegetable Farming, the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry, and the Tsentrosoyuz to take immediate measures to improve the organization of unloading operations at the railroad sidings of enterprises and organizations under their jurisdiction, ensure that transportation shops are fully staffed with the necessary manpower and means of mechanization, and thus achieve the efficient utilization of railroad cars engaged in the transportation of agricultural freight.

GRAIN HARVEST, WINTER SOWING DATA REPORTED

PM070930 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Sep 84 Morning Edition p 1

[O. Pavlov "Agricultural Review:: "In the Autumn Field"]

[Text] The USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported that by Monday 3 September grain and leguminous crops (excluding corn) had been harvested on 84.9 million hectares in the country and threshed on 79.5 million hectares -- 94 percent of the amount harvested.

Leguminous crops have been harvested on 5.2 million hectares, long-stemmed flax pulled on 709,000 hectares, potatoes lifted on 223,000 hectares, and vegetables harvested on 287,000 hectares.

Winter crops have been sown on 17.2 million hectares and fall-plowed fields have been plowed on 24.1 million hectares.

As yet, fall is treating the farmers kindly. It is providing good weather for field work almost everywhere apart from the Non-Chernozem Zone, the Cis-Ural Region, and Chita and Amur Oblasts. Fine days and the streamlined organization of work have made it possible for the farmers of Krasnoyarsk Kray and Irkutsk Oblast to undertake mowing at a fast rate. A high pace is being maintained by the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Altay Kray and Omsk and Tyumen Oblasts.

There are those who have harvested more grain in a week than the others: Tselinograd Oblast threshed grain on 939,000 hectares, Kustanay Oblast on 705,000 hectares, Altay Kray on 635,000 hectares, and Turgay Oblast on 579,000 hectares.

Thus, "grain operations" are in full swing in the east. What the different regions have in common is the complexity and nonuniformity of the task whose main character is grain and its nature. The most important thing in this nature is the demands made on farmers to conduct the harvest more rapidly and prevent losses.

Unfortunately, the harvest has been severely delayed in places in central Russia and the Volga-Vyatka Region. In Kalinin, Smolensk, and Yaroslavl Oblasts around 40 percent of grain crops, and in Kirov Oblast almost 33 percent, still remain to be harvested. References to the weather here are hardly justified -- in neighboring oblasts it has been possible to organize the work well under these conditions.

Grain procurement is proceeding in an organized way in most places. Purchase rates have not been falling recently. It is typical that this year more rye and brewing barley has arrived at reception centers.

Farmers are also concerned about the future harvest. In the last week winter crops have been sown on 5.9 million hectares. The previous week's figure was 5.3 million. Work has been well organized in East and West Siberia, the Volga Region, the Urals, and the Central Chernozem oblasts.

LAST LINE

Incidentally, I would like to note that in many regions of the country great attention is being devoted to fall-plowed fields this year. They are being well prepared, in particular in the Volga Region, the Urals, the Central Chernozem Zone, Kazakhstan, and Kirghizia. But work is being unjustifiably delayed in Latvia and in Novgorod, Smolensk, Kaluga, Kostroma, and Bryansk Oblasts.

The harvesting of grain corn has started in the Ukraine and the RSFSR and selective threshing of sunflowers is under way in Moldavia, the Crimea, and in Nikolayev, Zaporozhye, Donetsk, Poltava, and certain other oblasts. Sugar beet harvesting rates are picking up in 17 Ukrainian oblasts, Moldavia, and in Belgorod, Kursk, and Penza Oblasts.

Here it is worth saying a few words about the Ukraine, our leading "sugar shop." The harvest here, and this is already a tradition, is being conducted by progressive in-line and rolling-tradition-transshipment [potochnyye i potochno-perevalochnyye] methods.

The rate and quality of the harvest are determined by the long-term targeted "Sugar" program being implemented in the republic. It is aimed not only at increasing yields, but also at raising yields of ready sugar per hectare of the crop, which now occupies around 1.7 million hectares. The republic's farmers, who provide more than 60 percent of all-union sugar beet production, aim to finish harvesting shortly. In collaboration with their agro-industrial complex partners, they are striving to bring sugar yields up to 32-33 quintals per hectare.

Combines have entered the rice fields. Operations on feed crop areas are getting their "second wind" in a number of places. The country's farms have now procured 60.4 million metric tons of hay, 64 million metric tons of haylage, 80.8 million metric tons of silage, and 5.9 million metric tons of grass meal.

In short, there is still lots of work to be done in the September fields. The intensity of the harvest is still high.

CSA REPORTS ON FEED HARVEST, SHORTCOMINGS

LD072256 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 6 Sep 84

[Text] The USSR Central Statistical Administration reports that sown and natural grasses have been cut throughout the country on almost 80 million hectares. In recent days the gathering-in of grasses has once again been noticeably stepped up, since in a number of places weather conditions are making it possible to obtain a full-value second cut, while in the south the machine operators are already gathering in their third and fourth cuts on irrigated lands.

Most of the country's farms have fulfilled their plans for the preparation of haylage. The pace of silage-making has been quickly increasing, and corn has ripened for harvesting on a considerable area. This year many farms have increased the preparation of compound silage, which is successfully replacing concentrates. However, in the view of the specialists of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, the statistical data show that far from all reserves for supplementing feeds are being used in the proper way. There is still a great deal of the straw in the fields that has not been removed, which is delaying the plowing of winter fallow. The waste from horticulture, the tops of vegetables and root-crops, are not being properly used everywhere. A vast reserve remains in feed quality, although it has markedly improved in recent years.

A check has shown that a considerable proportion of hay, haylage, and silage laid in store in Vladimir, Yaroslavl, and Pavlodar Oblasts is not up to standard. Naturally, with such low standard feeds it is impossible to obtain a high yield from animals during the winter period.

SELSKAYA ZHIZN DETAILS FEED PROCUREMENT PROGRESS

PM070910 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 21 Aug 84 p 1

[Livestock expert M. Glinka "Agricultural Review": "Diet Structure"]

[Excerpt] The latest feed procurement figures have been issued. The USSR Central Statistical Administration reports that by 27 August 77.2 million hectares of sown and natural grasses had been cut. Some 58.2 million metric tons of hay and 62.9 million metric tons of haylage had been procured, as well as around 53 million metric tons of straw, chaff, and other coarse feed. Some 56.2 million metric tons of silage have been obtained and 5.7 million metric tons of articificially dehydrated green feed have been produced.

As is known, animal rations are created in the fields. What the farmers collect now will be in the trough in the winter. As they select the feed procurement technique and decide in what form to store during the wintering period everything that has been grown on meadows and arable land, farm leaders and specialists are already working on the structure of the livestock diet.

Recent years have seen marked changes for the better in this area. By increasing procurements of full-value coarse and succulent feed, above all hay, haylage, and silage, kolkhozes and sovkhozes want to increase the part they play in the diet of cattle, in order to use fewer grain concentrates at dairy and fattening units. This is not just for economic reasons -- in many parts grasses, silage crops, and roots and tubers provide the largest per hectare yield of feed units and, consequently, milk and meat -- but also because livestock experts recommend the introduction of bulk feed items to improve the biological value of the diet.

Scientists recommend the following annual diet structure for farms raising cattle. On farms in the Non-Chernozem Zone coarse feed should account for 25-28 percent of the annual diet, succulent feed -- 25-30 percent, and concentrates -- 16-18 percent. Green feed would account for the rest. On farms in the Central Chernozem Zone the amounts would be 22-24, 26-28, and 16-18 percent; in Belorussia and the Baltic Republics they would be 26-29, 24-29, and 15-17 percent; and in southern parts of the country 17-18, 24-26, and 16-18 percent.

Of course, it is important not only to reduce the proportion of concentrates in the diet of dairy and meat cattle, but, above all, to use the feed as effectively as possible and reduce expenditure per unit of stockraising output.

The following table represents expenditure of concentrates per quintal of milk and weight gain in cattle in the union republics last year (in quintals of feed units):

	Concentrates Used	
	Per quintal of milk	Per quintal weight gain
RSFSR	0.37	2.94
Ukraine	0.32	2.47
Belorussia	0.27	2.79
Uzbekistan	0.64	6.38
Kazakhstan	0.40	2.65
Georgia	0.51	4.92
Azerbaijan	0.64	5.10
Lithuania	0.32	3.32
Moldavia	0.33	2.69
Latvia	0.30	2.82
Kirghizia	0.54	4.17
Tajikistan	0.39	4.32
Armenia	0.40	4.11
Turkmenia	0.55	5.10
Estonia	0.41	2.91

In the RSFSR, workers on dairy and meat farms in Krasnodar Kray and Novgorad, Bryansk, Yaroslavl, and Novosibirsk Oblasts are the most economical users of concentrated feed. Workers in the Mari, Kabardina-Balkar, and Buryat ASSR's and Kuybyshev, Perm, Sverdlovsk, Kemerovo, Tomsk, and Chita Oblasts are using too many concentrates to produce milk and beef. Often you fail to get a corresponding increase in animal productivity when you increase the proportion of concentrated feed in the diet.

It goes without saying that the amount of concentrated feed can only be reduced if the animals are getting enough coarse and succulent feed. That is why it is so important to do everything one can to expand procurements of these.

The leading procurers of hay are farms in Lithuania and Latvia, which have fulfilled the plan for obtaining this feed by 108 percent. The Belorussian machine operators and farmers have laid in 92 percent of the planned quantity of this feed, the Ukrainians have laid in 87 percent, the Azerbaijanis -- 85 percent, the Moldavians -- 81 percent, and the Kazakhs -- 80 percent. Feed procurement workers in Georgia (43 percent) and Uzbekistan (50 percent of the planned amount) are lagging behind. The plan for laying down haylage has been fulfilled by all the union republics except the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Armenia, and Uzbekistan, but even these republics have little more to do and have every chance of fulfilling the plans. The leaders as far as silage making is concerned are the farms of Estonia and Lithuania, and the lowest stocks of succulent feed are on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Moldavia, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan, where this work is just getting under way.

EARLY SEPTEMBER WEATHER FORECAST REPORTED

PM070913 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 1 Sep 84 First Edition p 4

[Article by USSR Hydrometeorological Center Forecaster Ye. Mishchenko: "Don't Hurry the Fall"]

[Text] It is September. There is still a fair amount of sun and warmth, but nature is already assuming an autumnal mien. The forests are offering late berries: cranberries, blackberries, and mountain cranberries. The flowers are harmonizing with the fallen leaves and assuming yellow hues, while flocks of migrating birds gather noisily for departure. September will see the zone of atmospheric pressure reorganize itself for the winter.

Compared with August the air temperature in most of the European territory will drop 4-5 degrees. The drop will be 6-8 degrees in the Volga area and the Urals and most parts of Siberia and the Far East. The air temperature is already below zero on islands in northern seas, while in the south it remains above 20 degrees.

In the USSR there are areas where September is the best part of the year. In the southern part of the European territory the summer heat has gone, but there are still many dry, sunny days and plenty of warmth. In East Siberia and especially in the Far East there is a letup in cyclonic activity, less precipitation, and lighter winds. It can remain warm and fine for a long time. In the Maritime Kray, for example, in the first fall month the temperature is higher than in June, but it is dull and rainy on the Kola Peninsula, in Karelia, Kamchatka, and the Kuril Islands.

Over a considerable part of the country the first 10 days of September will remain summery. Central parts of Yakutia are the exception. The average daily temperature is steadily dropping below the 10-degree mark, and a snow cover is forming on islands in the Arctic Ocean and on the north coast of the Taymyr Peninsula. The average daily temperature in the first 10 days in Moscow is usually 13 degrees. The hottest day was 7 September 1938 when the temperature reached 31.5, while on 7 September 1900 the temperature fell to minus 1.

In the last week of August an influx of Arctic air brought cool weather to most parts of the country's European territory, with the air temperature 4-6 degrees below normal. It will stay dull and cool in the first 10 days with occasional rain; clear periods are possible on some days.

In the latter half of the 10-day period the weather will improve and become sunnier, with rain showers on some days. The air temperature will rise to 10-15 degrees in northern parts (18 in places), to 18-23 in the Central and Central Chernozem Regions, and 25 degrees in the south. Cool weather with occasional rain is expected in the Volga-Vyatka region and the Urals, with a daytime air temperature of 11-16, some days of 14-18 degrees. The Volga area will be warm with a little rain in places and will have air temperatures of 18-23 degrees and, in the south, up to 25 degrees. In southern parts of West Siberia it will stay warm with a little occasional rain and a daytime temperature of 18-23, and in places 25, degrees; the weather will not deteriorate until the end of the period, becoming wet and cold, with the temperature dropping to 13-18 degrees. Central parts of West Siberia can expect mainly overcast weather with occasional rain and an air temperature of 13-18 degrees.

Balmy autumn has come to the Black Sea resorts, where it will be warm and sunny with a daytime air temperature of 22-27 degrees; the water temperature will be 19-24 degrees on the Black Sea coast of the Caucasus and 18-23 off the Crimean coast.

COSMOS-1596 SATELLITE LAUNCHED 7 SEPTEMBER

LD080732 Moscow TASS in English 0730 GMT 8 Sep 84

[Text] Moscow September 8 TASS -- The Soviet Union launched Friday the "Cosmos-1,596" earth satellite, the next in turn, which is intended for a further space exploration.

The satellite was put into orbit with the following parametres: the initial period of revolution -- 11 hours 49 minutes, the maximum distance from the earth's surface -- 39,342 km, the minimal distance -- 613 km, the inclination of the orbit -- 62.8 degrees.

The equipment functions normally.

WORK CONTINUES ON BOARD SALYUT-7/SOYUZ T-11

LD071427 Moscow TASS in English 1029 GMT 7 Sep 84

[Text] Moscow September 7 TASS -- TASS special correspondent reports from the mission control centre:

Cosmonauts Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovyev and Oleg Atkov have been working in a near-earth orbit for 212 days now. Today they exceeded the accomplishment of Anatoliy Berezovoy and Valentin Lebedev who made a 211-day orbital flight in 1982.

Astrophysical experiments are continuing aboard the scientific research "Salyut-7" -- "Soyuz T-11 complex" with a view of measuring spectra of galactic and extra galactic sources of X-ray radiation in a broad range of energies with the help of telescrope-spectrometre "lilac", which was designed jointly by specialists of the Soviet Union and France. Yesterday the cosmonauts held a number of cycles of exploration of the Crab Nebula, and today the Cygnus constellation was chosen an object of observations.

In the course of the day the crew will make a series of experiments in accordance with the programme of exploration of natural resources of the earth and study of the environment, will conduct prophylactic work with separate systems aboard the station.

In the past few days all members of the crew underwent a comprehensive medical checkup. Checked specifically was the reaction of the cardiovascular system on imitation of the hydrostatic pressure by the "chibis" vacuum suit. Physiological parameters were registered by the multi-functional equipment -- "reograph", "aelita", "echograph". According to results of the medical checkup and reports from the orbit, Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovyev and Oleg Atkov retain high working efficiency and are in good health.

The longest-ever manned flight successfully continues in outer space.

TANK TROOPS DAY CELEBRATED AROUND USSR

Marked at Moscow Garrison

LD081939 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Sep 84

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting of the representatives of the working people of Moscow and soldiers of the capital's garrison devoted to Tank Troops Day took place today. Army General Mayorov, first deputy commander-in-chief of the Ground Forces, spoke at the meeting. Heads of ministries and departments, senior staff on the CPSU Central Committee and the CPSU Moscow City Committee, eminent military leaders, veterans of the tank troops, tank builders and designers, and representatives of the public took part in the meeting.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1800 GMT on 7 September reports on the meeting, adding that "Dmitriyev, chief of a department at the CPSU Central Committee, and Army General Yepishev, chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy" were present at the meeting.]

Chief of Armor Potapov Speaks

LD100103 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 9 Sep 84

[Talk by Colonel General Yuriy Mikhaylovich Potapov, chief of the Main Armor Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Defense]

[Excerpts] In the postwar period, thanks to the achievements of the Soviet economy and scientific-technical progress, the development of the tank troops -- as well as of the other arms of the Soviet Armed Forces -- reached a qualitatively new level. Their relative weight in the land forces increased. There was a significant increase in their strike power, protection, and maneuverability. Modern tanks have moved far ahead of the prototypes that in the 1940's and 1950's were considered the masterpieces of tank-building in the world.

The tanks of today are powerful combat vehicles equipped with a complex of armament and capable of hitting highly armored targets in a matter of seconds, with the first shot and at a great distance, taking aim from a stationary position or on the move, both in the daytime and at night. They can move at a high speed on the road and on rough country, they have good cross-country performance, they can negotiate water barriers unaided, and they provide the crew with a reliable defense against modern anti-tank and mass destruction weapons.

In terms of technical equipment, our tank troops are adequate to the highest degree for modern combat, and are the chief hit force of the land troops. We have at our disposal well-prepared cadres and a well-founded and practiced theory of the combat use of tank troops. The theory and practice of personnel traning and education is also developing.

Today's generation of tank crew members is furthering the traditions of the senior generations and perfecting their professional skills with determination. In study classes, in tank training areas, in training grounds, and in the process of field exercises, they are perfecting their mastery of combat and seeking to attain a maximum application of the high combat and technical qualities built into the first-class tank machinery.

The tank troops demonstrated their high mastery of combat during the exercises of the Army and Navy forces of the Soviet Armed Forces which were held on the territory of the GDR, the PPR, and the CSSR, as well as in the southern part of the Baltic, in the period between 28 June and 5 July this year, under the leadership of Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov, USSR minister of defense.

An important means for the further increase in the combat readiness of the tank troops is the socialist competition which is conducted under the slogan "Be on the alert, always ready to defend the gains of socialism!"

Under growing military danger and in active preparations by the aggressive circles of imperialism for a nuclear war against the Soviet Union and the socialist community countries, the tank troops servicemen are closing their ranks even more around the Communist Party and increasing their vigilance and combat readiness. In united formation with all personnel of the Armed Forces, they reliably defend the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and the historic gains of socialism, and are ready to fulfill with honor their patriotic and international duty.